



The Book of Swindles: Selections from a Late Ming Collection (Paperback)

By Yingyu Zhang

Columbia University Press, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. This is an age of deception. Con men ply the roadways. Bogus alchemists pretend to turn one piece of silver into three. Devious nuns entice young women into adultery. Sorcerers use charmed talismans for mind control and murder. A pair of dubious monks extorts money from a powerful official and then spends it on whoring. A rich student tries to bribe the chief examiner, only to hand his money to an imposter. A eunuch kidnaps boys and consumes their essence in an attempt to regrow his penis. These are just a few of the entertaining and surprising tales to be found in this seventeenth-century work, said to be the earliest Chinese collection of swindle stories. The Book of Swindles, compiled by an obscure writer from southern China, presents a fascinating tableau of criminal ingenuity. The flourishing economy of the late Ming period created overnight fortunes for merchants-and gave rise to a host of smooth operators, charlatans, forgers, and imposters seeking to siphon off some of the new wealth. The Book of Swindles, which was ostensibly written as a manual for self-protection in this shifting and...



[READ ONLINE](#)
[8.59 MB]

Reviews

This publication is great. I have study and that i am sure that i will planning to read once more again in the foreseeable future. You will like how the article writer write this publication.

-- Dr. Uriel Kovacek

This created ebook is great. it was writtern very properly and useful. Its been printed in an exceedingly easy way in fact it is just right after i finished reading this pdf where basically modified me, alter the way i think.

-- Aglae Becker