



The King of Schnorrers - The Original Classic Edition (Paperback)

By Israel Zangwill

Emereo Classics, Australia, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 244 x 188 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. This book is beautiful. Not beautiful like lovely writing in particular, though certainly israel zangwill wrote well, but beautiful in intricacy and fun and a level of cleverness so profound it boggles the mind. I suspect that the king of the schnorrers impact on later jewish humorists has been vastly understated. I am thinking particularly of groucho marx (who had a brilliant career more or less playing a sort of comic version of our main character here), but also through him a passage to people like woody allen (um, are there people like woody allen?) and jerry seinfeld, lenny bruce, sarah silverman. Indeed while this book is deeply concerned in its way with the particularities of the jewish communities of 19th century london and with jewish law it is a highly secular and universal work of humor and a brilliant satire of the malleability of religious law (and, in its way then, law, custom and social compacts in general). In this way it bridges a gap from, say, a sholem aleichem to, well, the urban american jewish humor...



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