



# Gargantua and Pantagruel

François Rabelais

Translated by Burton Raffel

# Resumo de Gargantua and Pantagrue

Biting and bawdy, smart and smutty, lofty and low, Gargantua and Pantagrue is fantasy on the grandest of scales, told with an unquenchable thirst for all of human experience. Rabelais's vigorous examination of the life of his times—from bizarre battles to great drinking bouts, from satire on religion and education to matter-of-fact descriptions of bodily functions and desires—is one of the great comic masterpieces of literature. Parts of Gargantua and Pantagrue were banned upon their publication, and the whole of it has suffered in our century at the hands of translators too timid to say in modern English what Rabelais so frankly wrote in Middle French.

Master translator Burton Raffel unapologetically brings to life in today's American idiom all the gusto of Rabelais's language. Raffel succeeds in making Gargantua and Pantagrue, so long a great unread classic, accessible and alive to the contemporary reader.

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