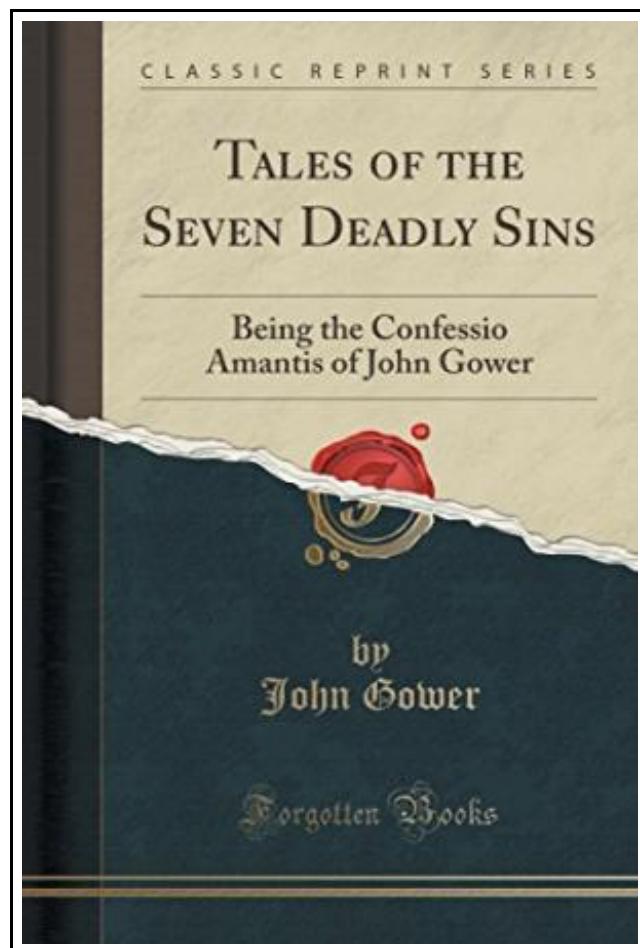


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from Tales of the Seven Deadly Sins: Being the Confessio Amantis of John Gower John Gower s book of old stories is here at last made current among Englishmen of every degree. The first way of its wider diffusion was by recitation of the story-tellers. It was their business to give pleasures of imagination to the people through their ears, when even the few who could read would also listen with enjoyment to a tale recited with dramatic energy. When the play of Pericles brought one of Gower s tales upon our stage in Shakespeare s time, John Gower himself was supposed to speak its Prologue in his chosen measure of eight-syllabled verse. His words then recalled to mind the old way of reciting as well as reading. The actor who, dressed as Gower, came before the people, said to them: - To sing a song that old was sung, From ashes ancient Gower is come; Assuming man s infirmities To glad your ear and please your eyes. It hath been sung at festivals, On ember eves and holy ales; And lords and ladies in their lives Have read it for restoratives. To all of us Gower may now go on to repeat other lines of the same Prologue: - If you, born in these latter times, When wit s more ripe, accept my rhymes; And that to hear an old man sing May to your wishes pleasure bring, I life would wish, and that I might Waste it for you, like taper light. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at This book is a reproduction...



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