



The Faithful Executioner: Life and Death in the Sixteenth Century

By Joel F. Harrington

Vintage Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Faithful Executioner: Life and Death in the Sixteenth Century, Joel F. Harrington, Meet Frantz Schmidt: executioner, torturer and, most unusually for his times, diarist. Following in his father's footsteps, Frantz entered the executioner's trade as an Apprentice. 394 executions and forty-five years later, he retired to focus his attentions on running the large medical practice that he had always viewed as his true vocation. Through examination of Frantz's exceptional and often overlooked record, Joel F. Harrington delves deep into a world of human cruelty, tragedy and injustice. At the same time, he poses a fascinating question: could a man who routinely practiced such cruelty also be insightful, compassionate - even progressive? The Faithful Executioner is the biography of an ordinary man struggling to overcome an unjust family curse; it is also a remarkable panorama of a Europe poised on the cusp of modernity, a world with startling parallels to our own.



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