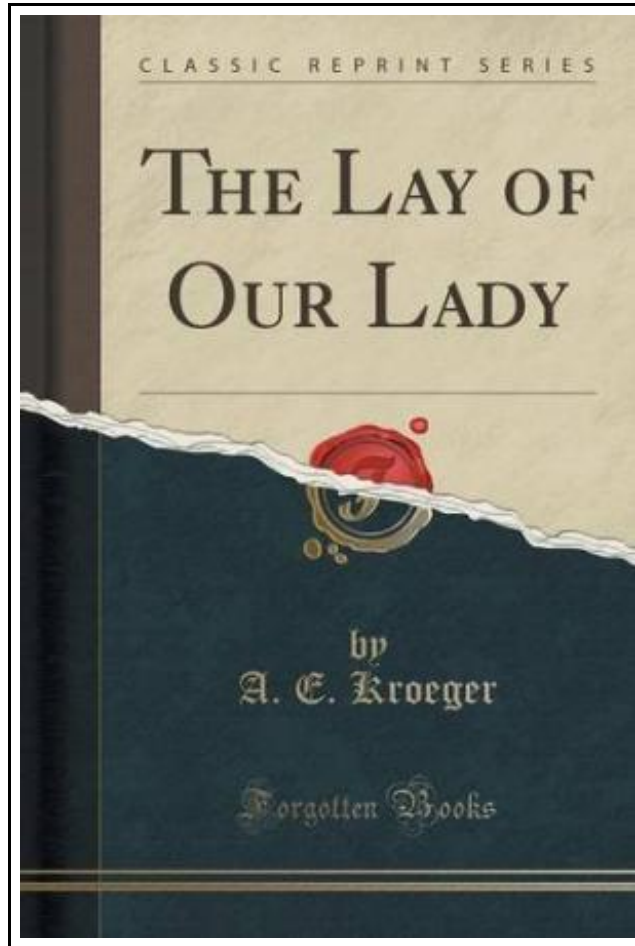


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from The Lay of Our Lady Almost every art-period has its three stages of crude beginning, complete finish, and overstrained skill. The Minnesinger period of German literature, tremblingly entering upon a newborn world of rhythm and rhyme, and in its first faltering utterances of their supernatural beauty often forgetting strict measure, the very essence of art, had risen into fullest development when men like Walther von der Vogelweide, Gottfried von Strassburg, and Wolfram von Eschenbach had learned to rule with self-conscious ease and skill the manifold elements of their craft of poesy. Then, with another age of men, to whom the Ne of poetry had not been transmitted, and who nevertheless were intensely susceptible to the beauty of its form, this period entered upon its third and last stage of overstrained effort. Among the men who stood between the two last periods as connecting links, most of them already of the citizen class and men of learning - whereas, the Minnesinger of former times was an unlettered knight, with knowledge of little but the laws of rhythm, rhyme, and metre, and the games, sports and rules of his profession, but filled with unlimited devotion to woman - ranks foremost in the eyes of our own times no less than he ranked in those of his own age, which fairly worshipped him, Henry von Meissen, more generally known as Frauenlob, the Algernon Swinburne of his time, and the last of the Minnesingers. For, although he was neither a knight nor an adherent to the old form of the Minnesong, he yet retained the power of singing that old Minnesong in all its original simplicity; and while in...



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