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Peasant Fires: The Drummer of Niklashausen

By Richard Wunderli

Indiana University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Peasant Fires: The Drummer of Niklashausen, Richard Wunderli, "A gem of a book. It has a plot, good guys and bad guys, it opens up a "strange" world, and it is exceptionally well written. This is the first time that I have seen anywhere this story told with as much sensitivity and care for the world of the peasant and its religious culture." - Thomas W. Robisheaux. One night in 1476 in the small southern German town of Niklashausen, an illiterate shepherd and street musician by the name of Hans Behem had a vision of the Virgin Mary. The Virgin told him to burn his drum in a bonfire of the vanities and preach at the village church the virtues of a life of poverty and devotion to God. In a short time, great crowds of peasants and common folk from all over Germany were coming to hear "The Drummer" preach, and Niklashausen became the object of a massive pilgrimage. His sermons became more and more radical; the authorities were alarmed. In the middle of the night, Hans was arrested by knights of the local bishop and imprisoned in the bishop's fortress....



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Reviews

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