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## The Elixir of Life

By Honore de Balzac

Windham Press, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.THE ELIXIR OF LIFE by Honore de Balzac TO THE READER At the very outset of the writer s literary career, a friend, long since dead, gave him the subject of this Study. Later on he found the same story in a collection published about the beginning of the present century. To the best of his belief, it is some stray fancy of the brain of Hoffmann of Berlin; probably it appeared in some German almanac, and was omitted in the published editions of his collected works. The Comedie Humaine is sufficiently rich in original creations for the author to own to this innocent piece of plagiarism; when, like the worthy La Fontaine, he has told unwittingly, and after his own fashion, a tale already related by another. This is not one of the hoaxes in vogue in the year 1830, when every author wrote his tale of horror for the amusement of young ladies. When you have read the account of Don Juan s decorous parricide, try to picture to yourself the part which would be...



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