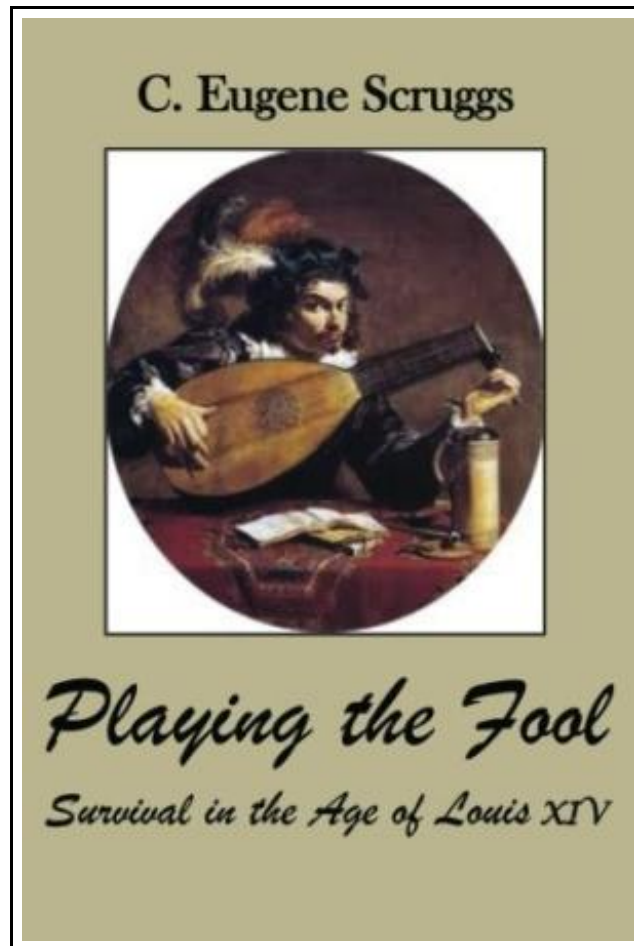


Playing the Fool



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(Dr. Porter Mitchell)

PLAYING THE FOOL



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CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 256 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.6in. Playing the Fool is an historical novel set in seventeenth-century France and Italy. All the major characters in the novel are real-life figures living in this exciting and transitional period. Among the players are Cyrano de Bergerac, DArtagnan, Cardinal Richelieu, Louis XIII, Lully, Mazarin and, of course, Louis XIV, the Sun King. The princiipal player and the narrator of the story grew to manhood during the free-wheeling and swashbuckling years of Henri IV and the Regency of Marie de Medici. He survived the tyranny of the wily Richelieu and eventually found himself struggling to survive in the reactionary reign of the Sun King. This narrator is Charles Coypeau, scion of a Parisian lawyer and a bella donna from Italy with a golden voice and a shart tongue. Charles was very much a child prodigy with a gift for music and a gift for languages. He rebelled against the wishes of his father who sought to force the young boy to prepare for the legal profession. After his mismatched parents separated, the quick-witted prodigy managed to escape temporarily from his fathers residence twice before the age of ten. Early on, young Charles found he could survive in a cruel world by using his wits and playing the fool, sometimes as a magician, sometimes as a fortune-teller, and always as an entertainer. Unappreciated in his fathers house, Charles came under the humanizing influence of his maternal grandfather, Guiseppe Agnani, who once crafted lutes and violins in the workshop of the Amati brothers in Cremona, Italy. Grandpapa Guiseppe introduced Chjarles to the Parisian acting and music scenes. He took the boy to see the Commedia dellarte and the local comic players....



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