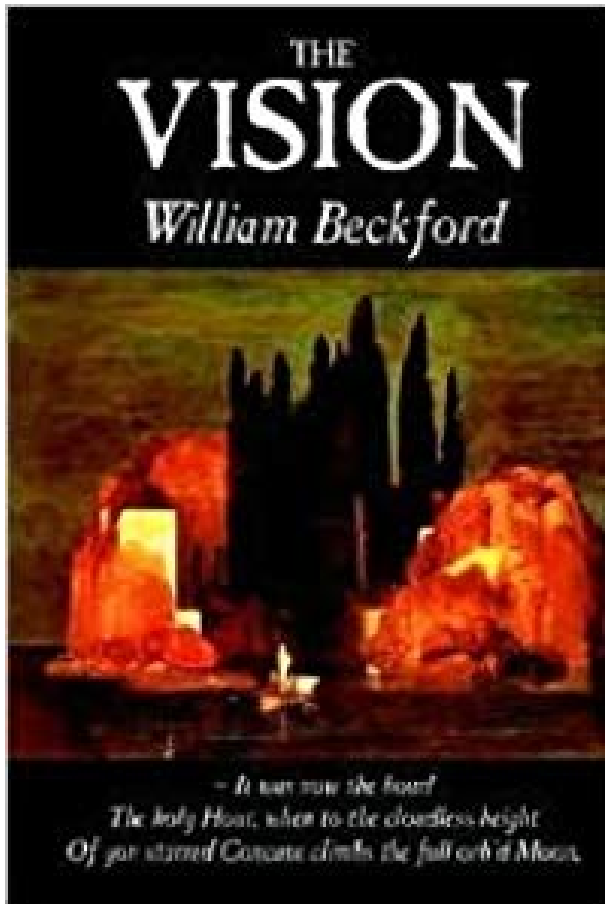


# The Vision by William Beckford, Fiction, Visionary & Metaphysical, Classics, Horror



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"Beckford, well read in Eastern romance, caught the atmosphere with unusual receptivity." -- H.P. Lovecraft .

. . Five years later, Beckford was to pen his Oriental romance VATHEK, which has made his name immortal. From his earliest years he had shown himself to be an amazing prodigy, writing and speaking French at age three, learning Latin and Greek by the time he was seven. He was also the richest commoner in Britain, who, in the course of his tour of the Continent to complete his education (the tour during which THE VISION was written) moved in such state that he was mistaken for the Holy Roman emperor traveling incognito. He became, ultimately, one of the most spectacular and eccentric aesthetes of all time, and a great connoisseur of all that is rare and beautiful.