

SHADES and SHADOWS

RANDOLPH EDMONDS

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BY

RANDOLPH EDMONDS



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To
MY SISTER
MAZIE E. BROOKS
and
MY BROTHER
THOMAS B. EDMONDS

FOREWORD

Although written in the form of drama, the following stories are for reading rather than for the stage. The whole aim has been to create fanciful stories, heightened in their imaginative quality by their subjects and the particular form in which they are written.

In two of the stories: "The Devil's Price" and "Shades and Shadows," some attempt has been made to introduce action, clash of wills, motivation and other requisites of good drama. The stage directions in these are only as important as they are in any printed play. In the other stories they are more important. They are used to get the tone, atmosphere, mood, and once and awhile a poetic effect, I hope.

It might seem presumptuous to offer these stories to the readers of the realistic literature of our times. It seems still more so to offer them to those who are acquainted with the gems of Maeterlinck and William Sharp. But youth is bold. So if they serve only to call attention to these two masters of the poetry on the borderland, they will have done some good.

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“By imagination, a man in a dungeon is capable of entertaining himself with scenes and landscapes more beautiful than any that can be found in the whole course of nature.”

—Addison.

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