

[*Saul stirs, opens his eyes and stares about him.*]

SAUL. I heard the gleaners singing through the corn;

Among the barley-sheaves I saw the face
Of Loruhamah!

LORUHAMAH [*bending over Saul*].

Saul!

SAUL [*looking up into Loruhamah's face*].

Who are you?

LORUHAMAH.

Saul!

SAUL [*leaning away from Loruhamah on his elbow*].

What do I lying helpless on the floor?

[*He stands and looks vacantly up and down the cave.*]

ABNER [*approaching Saul*].

O King, take courage! We shall do this day
Deeds on the field of battle that will lift
Your name among the mightiest of earth.

SAUL [*slowly recognises Abner*].

Abner!

[*Loruhamah goes over to Michal, gathers her in her arms and bears her to the couch where she tenderly lays her.*]

ABNER. My King!

SAUL [*still confused*].

What do we in this cave?

ABNER. Waiting the call of trumpets for Gilboa.

SAUL. Gilboa? . . . Who lies yonder—dead?