

# The Story of "Twok."

By WATSON GRIFFIN.

## PRESS NOTICES ON THE FIRST EDITION OF 1887.

"There is a good deal of originality in this story. The plot is ingeniously constructed and the story is told in a simple and graceful manner. Twok is a singularly attractive little personage and her philosophic lover, the blacksmith, Joy, is a character of equal interest. The simple and yet stirring life of a Canadian village is graphically depicted and the mystery in connection with Twok's birth and parentage carefully unravelled. The moral tone of the tale is refreshingly pure, and the author, in his dialogues, discusses with original force many religious problems of moment. The story is healthy as well as entertaining, and ought to commend itself to readers on this side of the ocean who have grown weary of the sameness of modern English fiction."—*Dublin Evening Mail*.

"The story itself is simple, unaffected and pretty."—*Evangelical Churchman*, Toronto.

"The story nowhere lacks in interest."—*St. John, N. B., Telegraph*.

"A most interesting and striking story. The scene of the novel is laid in Canada, and the incident, scenery and conversations are managed with tact and skill. Mr. Griffin writes with great taste and spirit. His entire work is very even, and we may, without hesitation, declare this story to be one of the brightest bits of Canadian fiction that we have yet seen in English. The philosophy is charming. It is a real credit to the author and to the country. The love-making is particularly well done."—*The Chronicle*, Quebec.

"An ingenious and interesting story. But who is Twok? The chain of events which led to her identification is skillfully linked together and the career of Trenwith, as related by himself, is highly sensational. The book is not faultless (what book is?), but it has the main merit of being entertaining, and that is a virtue in a writer that covers a multitude of sins. Mr. Griffin has originality, constructive ability and considerable tact as a story teller."—*Montreal Gazette*.

"Mr. Griffin has the power of seeing to the bottom of most of those problems that trouble the thinking man, and he has a refreshingly clear style of expression."—*Montreal Herald*.

"The heroine is Twok, and from the moment she is introduced to the reader, interest in her never abates. Mr. Griffin outlined a plot with rare skill and marshalled his characters with consummate ability, the result being a book of intense interest."—*Toronto Mail*.

"Mr. Watson Griffin is a young Canadian who has distinguished himself by some good writing in American magazines done in a few calm moments between the 'hurries' of a journalist's work. Twok is a queer, pleasant story. The tale is mostly of Ontario life, is full of local color, is marked by a good deal of curious observation, and has the great literary merit of being unpretentious."—*Toronto Globe*.

"The plot is cleverly constructed and the characters are drawn with a bold hand. Twok cannot but exercise a wholesome, moral influence on those who read it. It is manifestly the production of a man with broad and liberal views. The mind that planned such a literary structure is not contracted by the silly religious prejudices of modern times. Such books as 'Twok' are certainly calculated to make men happier, better and wiser."—*Guelph Herald*.

"The story is interesting—unique in some respects, and does credit to Mr. Griffin, who is a newspaper man."—*Buffalo Express*.

"The book is full of incident and life, but the more thoughtful reader will find abundant food for reflection in the clear and searching observations on living topics, more especially with reference to character building and spiritual forces. The tone of the writer is pure and hopeful, and anyone should be the better of a careful perusal of 'Twok.'"—*Guelph Mercury*.

"'Twok' is the decidedly odd title of a domestic story, somewhat out of the common run. The scene is Canadian, and this not very usual locale for a work of fiction gives the scheme novelty, which is enhanced by numerous clever realistic touches. The book is markedly religious in tone, yet is not wanting in vivacious incident."—*Philadelphia American*.

"There is a great deal of human interest in the story."—*Cleveland Leader*.

"It presents a great deal of originality of thought, though somewhat heterodox on many points. The tone of the book is pure, its ideas bright and wholesome, its characters well chosen, and it is well worth reading."—*London Advertiser*.

"We can say like the modern school girl, this story is 'just too lovely for anything.' That is, it is a pure, harmless story, but is crowned with a true novel's ending, such as gives the sensational thrill, without which a novel is unsatisfying."—*New York Church Union*.

"There is an amount of thought in some of the dissertations which, though altogether out of place, these are in a story, is by no means to be despised."—*London (Eng.) Graphic*.

"Canadian literature has been enriched by a novel, 'Twok.' We cannot have a national library unless the few authors we possess are encouraged, and through this excellent work Canadians have an opportunity of showing legitimate encouragement and appreciation."—*Kingston Whig*.

"The author has written an interesting tale. He has succeeded in creating a truly lovable heroine, his dialogue, without being witty, is interesting and his discussions of religious problems and metaphysical difficulties sufficiently original to make them well worth reading."—*Kingston News*.

"For originality of thought and purity of tone the book is highly commendable and should be extensively read."—*Dufferin Advertiser*.

"Twok is a story which combines much original thinking, with a variety of sensational elements."—*Montreal Witness*.

"It is an extremely clever work, and could only have been written by an original thinker, actuated by high principles."—*Cobourg World*.

"A readable, healthy and even striking story. The story commands the interest of the reader from start to finish. The book is worth reading and there is a great deal of originality in it."—*Ottawa Journal*.

"Interestingly written, and its delineation of character shows careful observation and insight. It is a creditable contribution to Canadian literature."—*Canada Presbyterian*.

"None who read it through will fail to be convinced that Mr. Griffin has written it with a high and earnest purpose."—*The Week*.

"'Twok'—this odd word is the title of an odd novel from the pen of a bright young Canadian. Quaint as it is, it is full of thought and food for thought."—*International Royal Templar*.

A copy of "Twok" will be sent to any address for twenty-five cents. Address: OUR HOME, No. 16 St. Sacramento Street, Montreal.