

## THE OUTCAST

Magdalene and she wept with His mother a His cross. No, she is tried by the law of society, by the tribunal established by society, by society itself, which, in its hypocrisy, cast her out.

“It is a poor summary of what he said that I give. It was the man, not the words.

“‘What chance,’ he demanded, ‘did she have; what chance had she ever had? She had been foredoomed from her birth; preordained to the life that she had led. What had society or law ever done for her? They had banished her to her foul den while they prayed and sang, and locked her in it as in a ghetto of perdition.

“‘Her story was a simple one. She was conceived in sin; she was the child of a harlot, and of whom? He did not know. Of some man like this one, who had taken her up for his pleasure, and for his pleasure had cast her off. The tragedy of life had but repeated itself in this case. Her mother, like her, had been an outcast and, like her, had been given a glimpse of heaven through a man’s love, and had seized upon it with