

OUTCAST OF MILAN

"Ah, my lord duke, you forget yourself. There are laws which you and I dare not break. A true knight of the Cross hath passage to any city in Christendom, and the gates cannot be closed against him. You cast out a poor armorer—he returns with the passport of the silver cross—and he claims passage by a right which you cannot deny."

"I do deny it!" exclaimed the duke, now fairly beside himself with passion. "He shall not escape me thus! He is a criminal, and as such, within my own dominions, I claim him for punishment. Away with him! I will hear no more!"

"Fore God!" cried Frederic Von Brunt, pushing his way nearer to the dais, "this shall not be. I espouse the cause of the illustrious knight. For what he hath this day done let him harm him who dare!"

"I think I saw your face. It is wonderful I cannot account for it. I can hardly realize it. Cynthia and I have been talking about it."

"And now, I suppose," said our hero, with a smile, "you would like to have me talk about it?"

"How thwarted?" asked the prince. "How thwarted? Don't you know? Who was it that won the prize at the tournament? Who overcame my stout captain? Who overcame my son?"

CHAPTER VII. NEED OF MORE PLOTTING. "What is this?" cried Orlando Vendome, starting back, and gazing sharply out upon the strangers who had arisen from behind the palling.

CHAPTER VI. PLOTTING. During three days sports of various kinds were kept up in the enclosure which had been prepared for the tournament; and as a closing scene the duke gave a grand feast of meat and wine to the populace.

CHAPTER VII. NEED OF MORE PLOTTING. "What is this?" cried Orlando Vendome, starting back, and gazing sharply out upon the strangers who had arisen from behind the palling.

CHAPTER VIII. THE BATTLE. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER IX. THE ESCAPE. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER X. THE CONCLUSION. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER XI. THE AFTERMATH. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER XII. THE END. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER XIII. THE REVEALING. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER XIV. THE CLIMAX. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER XV. THE DENOUEMENT. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

CHAPTER XVI. THE AFTERMATH. "I am not a man," said the duke, "but I shall defend myself to the utmost. I know you, and I know your business."

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