

**YOUNG LUCRETIA,  
AND  
OTHER STORIES**

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Young Lucretia, and Other Stories by Mary E. Wilkins

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**MARY E. WILKINS**

**YOUNG LUCRETIA,  
AND  
OTHER STORIES**



DO YOU  
ARRANGE?



“LUCRETIA RAYMOND, WHAT DO YOU MEAN, PUTTING YOUR DRESS ON THIS WAY?”

# YOUNG LUCRETIA

## AND OTHER STORIES

BY

MARY E. WILKINS

AUTHOR OF "A NEW ENGLAND NUN, AND OTHER STORIES"  
"A HUMBLE ROMANCE, AND OTHER STORIES" ETC.

ILLUSTRATED



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*Angela M. Williams*

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## YOUNG LUCRETIA

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"Who's that little gal goin' by?" said old Mrs. Emmons.

"That—why, that's young Lucretia, mother," replied her daughter Ann, peering out of the window over her mother's shoulder. There was a fringe of flowering geraniums in the window; the two women had to stretch their heads over them.

"Poor little soul!" old Mrs. Emmons remarked further. "I pity that child."

"I don't see much to pity her for," Ann returned, in a voice high-pitched and sharply sweet; she was the soprano singer in the village choir. "I don't see why she isn't taken care of as well as most children."

"Well, I don't know but she's took care of, but I guess she don't get much coddlin'. Lucretia an' Maria ain't that kind—never was. I heerd the other day they was goin' to have a Christmas-