

**GWEN: A DRAMA
IN MONOLOGUE,
IN SIX ACTS**

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Gwen: A Drama in Monologue, in Six Acts by Lewis Morris

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G W E N

A DRAMA IN MONOLOGUE

IN SIX ACTS

BY THE AUTHOR OF

"THE EPIC OF HADES"

"Everything is so wonderful, great and holy, so sad and yet not bitter, so full of Death, and so bordering on Heaven."—*JOHN STUART* in *Carlyle's Life*.



LONDON

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1879

280. o. 351.

TO HIS FRIEND

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

JOHN BRIGHT, M.P.,

THIS POEM IS GRATEFULLY DEDICATED

BY

THE AUTHOR.

P R E F A C E.

THE following poem is, as things now are, so far removed from the possibility of representation on the stage, that it seems needless to apologise for its wide departure from all the traditions of the acted drama.

The use of monologue is due to the fact that the writer has found it easier by this method to ensure to his characters the full expression of their inner selves than by subjecting them to the necessary limitations and frequent trivialities of dialogue.

It will be observed that the characters in Act VI. are not those of the rest of the poem.

December, 1878.

G W E N.



PROLOGUE.

Not of old time alone
Was Life a scene of hopes and fears,
High joys and bitter tears ;
Nor Chance nor Fate are done ;
Nor from our fuller Day
The fabled gods have wholly fled away ;
The World and Man to-day are young
As when blind Homer sung.