

**THE BLOOD
STAINED
ROSE: A ROMANCE**

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The Blood Stained Rose: A Romance by Lillian Sincere Aherns

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LILLIAN SINCERE AHERNS

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THE BLOOD STAINED ROSE

Presented to the author

6-24-1917

THE
BLOOD STAINED
ROSE

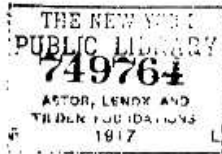
A ROMANCE

BY

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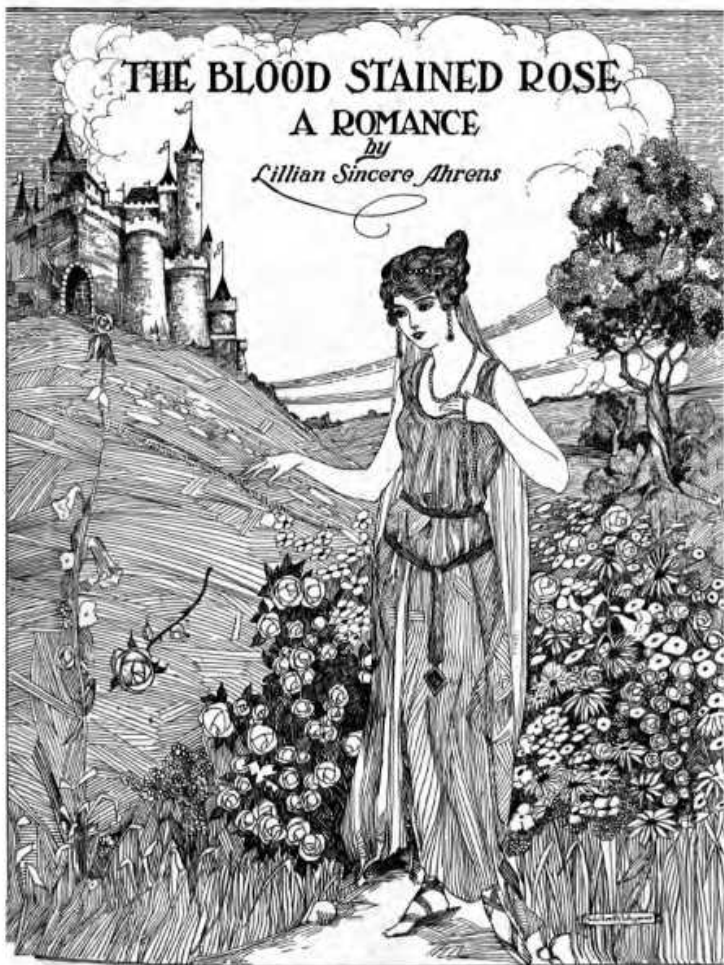


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A ROMANCE

by
Lillian Sincere Ahrens



*"In every stern and unimaginative age, there
is more danger to be feared from the want
of romance, than from excess of it."*

* * *

*So, my friend, at this age most opportune,
A romance laced with spiles and tears,
I present to thee.
If thou would'st thy soul with garlands
Of ambrosial sweets enchain, I pray thee,
With my worthy players dwell awhile.*

PART ONE.

On a spring morn, aglow with happiness,
Marian roamed her garden fair, and cried,
"I seek thee, love; where are thou?"
The lingering gold of dawn, the violets
from purple bed,
The fragrance of the sweets of spring suf-
fused her thoughts.
While toying with a rose she pricked her
hand,
But undisturbéd, and with playful mien, she
stained the white rose red.
Then tossing it with childish mirth, she cried,
"The youth who this rose finds, I'll wed!"
The encrimsoned rose lay prone. Marian
on her way went singing,