EDEN, AN EPISODE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649179428

Eden, an episode by Edgar Saltus

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EDGAR SALTUS

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"Perduto è tutto il tempo che in amar non si spende."

-Tasso.

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TO

E_H

AMICISSIMA

New York, 15th May, 1888.

EDEN

I.

It was not until Miss Menemon's engagement to John Usselex was made public that the world in which that young lady moved manifested any interest in her future husband. Then, abruptly, a variety of rumors were circulated concerning him. It was said, for instance, that his real name was Tchurchenthaler and that his boyhood had been passed tending geese in a remote Bavarian dorf, from which, to avoid military service, he had subsequently fled. Again, it was affirmed that in Denmark he was known as Baron Varvedsen, and that he had come to this country not to avoid military service, but the death penalty,