

**WRITTEN IN FIRE: A  
NOVEL. IN THREE  
VOLUMES. VOL. I**

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Written in Fire: A Novel. In Three Volumes. Vol. I by Florence Marryat

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**FLORENCE MARRYAT**

**WRITTEN IN FIRE: A  
NOVEL. IN THREE  
VOLUMES. VOL. I**



WRITTEN IN FIRE.

# WRITTEN IN FIRE.

A Novel.

BY

FLORENCE MARRYAT,

AUTHOR OF

"LOVE'S CONFLICT," "FIGHTING THE AIR," "HER FATHER'S NAME,"  
ETC. ETC.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. I.



London:

TINSLEY BROTHERS, 8, CATHERINE ST., STRAND.  
1878.

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251. e. 497.

TO  
GEORGE AND MARIE NEVILLE,

IN AFFECTIONATE ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF A FRIENDSHIP THAT HAS BORNE THE TESTS OF TIME,  
AND CHANGE, AND SEPARATION.

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# WRITTEN IN FIRE.

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## CHAPTER I.

### "WHAT IS TO BECOME OF FABIAN?"

Two men, engaged in conversation, were pacing slowly up and down the broad walk that intersects the belt of trees complimentarily termed the park of Brusca, and divides it in the form of a cross.

One was an ecclesiastic of the Catholic Church. That was easy to be seen, no less by his closely-shorn face and the dress he wore, than from the deference he exacted from the crowd. The women, clustered in

groups beneath the wide-spreading trees, stayed their chatter or their flirtations to make a deep reverence as he passed.

No wonder, for he knew the peccadilloes of every pretty sinner there. His name was Père Raoul, and he was the favourite confessor of the feminine portion of the inhabitants of Brusca.

His companion was an Englishman, although it would have been difficult to have recognised the fact either from his accent or his style of dress. His long fair beard, slightly intermingled with gray, swept over a coat of black velvet, and the wide-brimmed *sombrero* which he wore covered a head of hair too long to suit the customs of our country. His age may have been fifty, his face, except for a pinched expression, was handsome, and as he appeared, the loiterers had whispered to the few who were unacquainted with him that he was Charles Delacourt, the artist.