

**THE EBB TIDE: A  
TRIO AND  
QUARTETTE**

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The Ebb Tide: A Trio and Quartette by Robert Louis Stevenson & Lloyd Osbourne

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**ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON & LLOYD OSBOURNE**

**THE EBB TIDE: A  
TRIO AND  
QUARTETTE**



# THE EBB TIDE

A TRIO AND QUARTETTE

BY

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

AND

LLOYD OSBOURNE

"THERE IS A TIDE IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN"

NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1902

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## THE EBB TIDE

1907



# THE EBB TIDE

## A TRIO AND QUARTETTE

### PART I.—THE TRIO

#### CHAPTER I

##### NIGHT ON THE BEACH

THROUGHOUT the island world of the Pacific, scattered men of many European races and from almost every grade of society carry activity and disseminate disease. Some prosper, some vegetate. Some have mounted the steps of thrones and owned islands and navies. Others, again, must marry for a livelihood; a strapping, merry, chocolate-colored dame supports them in sheer idleness; and dressed like natives, but still retaining some foreign element of gait or attitude, still perhaps with some relic (such as a single eye-glass) of the officer and gentleman, they sprawl in palm-leaf verandas, and entertain an island audience with memoirs of the music-hall. And there are still others, less pliable,