

**THE LAST BALLAD
AND OTHER POEMS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649376520

The last ballad and other poems by John Davidson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JOHN DAVIDSON

**THE LAST BALLAD
AND OTHER POEMS**

By the same Author

NEW BALLADS - - - - -	4/6 net
BALLADS AND SONGS - - - - -	5/- "
FLEET ST. ECLOGUES - - - - -	4/6 "
FLEET ST. ECLOGUES, 2nd Series	4/6 "
A RANDOM ITINERARY - - - - -	5/- "
PLAYS - - - - -	7/6 "
GODFRIDA - - - - -	5/- "

The Last Ballad
and other Poems

By John Davidson

LONDON AND NEW YORK
JOHN LANE
1899

300631
—
30 5

Copyright in America

All Rights reserved

Second Edition

PR
4525
D5L3

CONTENTS

	PAGE
THE LAST BALLAD	1
THE ORDEAL	24
A BALLAD OF A COWARD	85
COMING	93
BATTLE	95
THE HYMN OF ABDUL HAMID	97
WAR-SONG	101
THE BADGE OF MEN	106
THE UNRESIGNED MOURNER	109
THE GIFT	110
EARTH TO EARTH	111
MY LILY	114
PRINCE OF THE FAIRIES	116
THE STOOP OF RHENISH	118
MATINÉES :—I	121
II.	122

CONTENTS

	PAGE
HOLIDAY AT HAMPTON COURT	124
IN THE ISLE OF DOGS	127
AFTERNOON	132
INSOMNIA	134
THE LAST ROSE	136
SUMMER RAIN	140
THE PRICE	142
THE UNKNOWN	144
WAITING	146
THE ARISTOCRAT	149
THE OUTCAST	152
THE PIONEER	155
THE HERO	158
ECLOGUES:—I.	160
II.	165
III.	168

THE LAST BALLAD

By coasts where scalding deserts reek,
The apanages of despair;
In outland wilds, by firth and creek,
O'er icy bournes of silver air;

In storm or calm delaying not,
To every noble task addressed,
Year after year, Sir Lancelot
Fulfilled King Arthur's high behest.

He helped the helpless ones; withstood
Tyrants and sanctioners of vice;
He rooted out the dragon brood,
And overthrew false deities.

THE LAST BALLAD

Alone with his own soul, alone
With life and death, with day and night,
His thought and strength grew great and
shone
A tongue of flame, a sword of light.

And yet not all alone. On high,
When midnight set the spaces free,
And brimming stars hung from the sky
Low down, and spilt their jewellery,

Behind the nightly squandered fire,
Through a dark lattice only seen
By love, a look of rapt desire
Fell from a vision of the Queen.

From heaven she bent when twilight knit
The dusky air and earth in one;