THE LEATHERWOOD GOD

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The Leatherwood God by William Dean Howells & Henry Raleigh

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WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS & HENRY RALEIGH

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He was now towering over those near him, with his head thrown back, and his hair tossed like a mane on his shoulders

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WILLIAM DEAN HOWELLS

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY HENRY RALEIGH



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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The author thinks it well to apprise the reader that the historical outline of this story is largely taken from the admirable narrative of Judge Taneyhill in the Ohio Valley Series, Robert Clarke Co., Cincinnati. The details are often invented, and the characters are all invented as to their psychological evolution, though some are based upon those of real persons easily identifiable in that narrative. The drama is that of the actual events in its main development; but the vital incidents, or the vital uses of them, are the author's. At times he has enlarged them; at times he has paraphrased the accounts of the witnesses; in one instance he has frankly reproduced the words of the imposter as reported by one who heard Dylks's last address in the Temple at Leatherwood and as given in the Taneyhill narrative. Otherwise the story is effectively fiction.



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He was now towering over those near him, with his head thrown back, and his hair tossed like a mane on his shoulders
Nancy stood staring at her, with words beyond saying in her heart — words that rose in her throat and choked her 65
"You believe, maybe, that you would be struck dead if you said the things that I do; but why ain't I struck dead?" 97
"It's my cloth! I spun it, I wove it, every thread! It's all we've got for our clothes this winter!" 129
"Now you can see how it feels to have your own husband slap you"
She had begun to wash his wound, very gently, though she spoke so roughly, while he murmured with the pain and with the comfort of the pain
They swarmed forward to the altar-place and flung them- selves on the ground, and heaped the pulpit-steps with their
bodies
"And he went down ag'in, and when he come up ag'in, his face was all soakin' wet, like he'd been crying under the
water"

