

**A BIT O' LOVE, A
PLAY IN
THREE ACTS**

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A Bit O' Love, A Play in Three Acts by John Galsworthy

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JOHN GALSWORTHY

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BY
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NEW YORK
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
1916

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PERSONS OF THE PLAY

**MICHAEL STRANGWAY
BEATRICE STRANGWAY
MRS. BRADSHAW
JIM BEEB
JACK CREMER
MRS. BURLACOMBE
BURLACOMBE
TRUSTAFORD
JARLAND
CLYST
FREMAN
GODLEIGH
SOL POTTER
MOESE, AND OTHERS**

**IVY BURLACOMBE
CONNIE TRUSTAFORD
GLADYS FREMAN
MERCY JARLAND
TIBBY JARLAND
BOBBIE JARLAND**

SCENE: A VILLAGE OF THE WEST

The Action passes on Ascension Day.

ACT I. STRANGWAY'S ROOMS at BURLACOMBE'S. *Morning.*

ACT II.

SCENE I. *The Village Inn.*

SCENE II. *The same.*

SCENE III. *Outside the church.*

} *Evening.*

ACT III.

SCENE I. STRANGWAY'S ROOMS.

SCENE II. BURLACOMBE'S BARN.

ACT I

It is Ascension Day in a village of the West. In the low panelled hall-sittingroom of the BURLACOMBES' farmhouse on the village green, MICHAEL STRANGWAY, a clerical collar round his throat and a dark Norfolk jacket on his back, is playing the flute before a very large framed photograph of a woman, which is the only picture on the walls. His age is about thirty-five; his figure thin and very upright and his clean-shorn face thin, upright, narrow, with long and rather pointed ears; his dark hair is brushed in a cowcomb off his forehead. A faint smile hovers about his lips that Nature has made rather full and he has made thin, as though keeping a hard secret; but his bright grey eyes, dark round the rim, look out and upwards almost as if he were being crucified. There is something about the whole of him that makes him seem not quite present. A gentle creature, burnt within.

A low, broad window above a window-seat forms the background to his figure; and through its lattice panes are seen the outer gate and yew-trees of a churchyard and the porch of a church, bathed in May sunlight. The front door at right angles to the