

# **THE MAN IN BLACK**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649134601

The man in black by Stanley J. Weyman

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](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**STANLEY J. WEYMAN**

**THE MAN  
IN BLACK**





"IF YOU WANT ME TO—DRAW HER HOROSCOPE," THE ASTROLOGER  
REPLIED" (A. 89).

The  
Man in Black

BY  
STANLEY J. WEYMAN

*Author of "A Gentleman of France" "The Story  
of Francis Cludde" etc.*



Illustrated by  
WAL. PAGET AND H. M. PAGET



SIXTH THOUSAND

170438  
12.4.22

CASSELL AND COMPANY LIMITED

*London Paris & Melbourne*

1894

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

1911

12

1911

PR  
6045  
Eg3M3



## CONTENTS.

---

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE FAIR AT FÉCAMP . . . . .	I
II. SOLOMON NÔTREDAME . . . . .	23
III. MAN AND WIFE . . . . .	46
IV. THE HOUSE WITH TWO DOORS . . . . .	65
V. THE UPPER PORTAL. . . . .	81
VI. THE POWDER OF ATTRACTION. . . . .	104
VII. CLYTEMNESTRA . . . . .	128
VIII. THE MARK OF CAIN. . . . .	152
IX. BEFORE THE COURT. . . . .	174
X. TWO WITNESSES . . . . .	191



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.



"IF YOU WANT ME TO—DRAW HER HOROSCOPE," THE ASTROLOGER REPLIED" . . . . .	<i>Frontispiece</i>
	PAGE
"THE SHOWMAN WAS COUNTING HIS GAINS INTO HIS POUCH" . . . . .	13
"JEHAN WENT TREMBLING AND FOUND THE HOLE" . . . . .	31
"THE ASTROLOGER ROSE SLOWLY FROM HIS SEAT" . . . . .	53
"JEHAN LEAPT BACK WITH A SHRIEK OF PAIN" . . . . .	75
"FOR A SECOND THE MAN IN BLACK STOOD BREATHLESS" . . . . .	93
"'MADAME! MADAME DE VINDOCHK, IF YOU PLEASE!'" . . . . .	113
"HE WATCHED HER EVERY MOTION" . . . . .	125
"IN A MOMENT HE WAS DOWN, WRITHING ON THE FLOOR" . . . . .	135
"'WHO STOLE HIM? WHERE HAS HE BEEN?'" . . . . .	171
"THEY WERE CARRYING HIM" . . . . .	193
"A MAN, HALF-NAKED, . . . CRAWLED ON TO THE HIGHROAD" . . . . .	209

# THE MAN IN BLACK.

---

## CHAPTER I.

### THE FAIR AT FÉCAMP.

*"I AM Jehan de Bault, Seigneur of—I know not where, and Lord of seventeen lordships in the County of—I forget the name, of a most noble and puissant family, possessing the High Justice, the Middle, and the Low. In my veins runs the blood of Roland, and of my forefathers were three marshals of France. I stand here, the——"*

It was the eve of All Saints, and the famous autumn horse-fair was in progress at Fécamp—Fécamp on the Normandy coast, the town between the cliffs, which Boisrosé, in the year '93, snatched for the Great King by a feat of audacity unparalleled in war. This only by the way, however; and that a

worthy deed may not die. For at the date of this fair of which we write, the last day of October, 1637, stout Captain Boisrosé, whom Sully made for his daring Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance, had long ceased to ruffle it; the Great King had lain in his grave a score of years or more; and though Sully, duke and peer and marshal, still lived, an aged, formal man, in his château of Villebon by Chartres, all France, crouching under the iron hand of the Cardinal, looked other ways.

The great snarled, biting at the hem of the red soutane. But that the mean and Jacques Bonhomme, the merchant and the trader, flourished under his rule, Fécamp was as good evidence this day as man could desire. Even old burghers who remembered Charles the Ninth, and the first glass windows ever seen in Fécamp outside the Abbey, could not say when the price of horses had been higher or the town more full. All day, and almost all night, the clatter of hoofs and babble of bargains filled the narrow streets; while hucksters' cries and drunkards' oaths, with all raucous sounds, went up to heaven