

**ROSAMUNDA: A
TRAGEDY IN
FIVE ACTS**

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Rosamunda: A Tragedy in Five Acts by Vittorio Alfieri

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VITTORIO ALFIERI

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TRAGEDY IN
FIVE ACTS**

ROSAMUNDA.

BY VITTORIO ALFIERI; TRANSLATED INTO
ENGLISH, BY THOMAS WILLIAMS

ROSMUNDA:

TRAGEDIA DE CINQUE ATTI

DI

VITTORIO ALFIERI.

VERSIONE INGLESE DI

THOMAS WILLIAMS.

LONDRA:

STAMPERIA DI R. S. FRANCIS, CATHERINE STREET, STRAND.

1856.

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PERSONAGGI.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Rosmunda | Madame RISTORI |
| Romilda | Mlle. PICCHIOTTINO |
| Almachilde | . Sig. GLECK |
| Ildovaldo | . Sig. BOCCOMINI |

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Rosamunda | | Madame RISTORI |
| Romilda | | Mlle. PICCHIOTTINO |
| Almachilde | | Signor GLECK |
| Ildovaldo | | Signor BOCCOMINI |

ROSMUNDA.

ATTO PRIMO.

SCENA I.

ROSMUNDA, ROMILDA.

Ros. Perfida, al ciel porgi pur voti; innalza,
Innalza pur tue vane grida al cielo;
Già non fia ch' ei t' ascolti. Arde frattanto
Presso al Ticino la feral battaglia;
Quinci n' odo 'l fragor: nè in dubbia speme
Mi ondeggia il core: del novel mio sposo
L' alta virtù guerriera appien certezza
Del vincer dammi.

Rom. Se Almachilde in campo
Val, quanto ei valse in questa reggia, allora
Che a tradimento trucidovvi 'l mio
Padre Alboino, ei vincerà: ma Clefi,
Che contro lui combatte, ora non giace
Nel sonno immerso, a ria consorte in braccio,
Come Alboin, marito tuo giacea
In quell' orrida notte. Il fior dei prodi
Clefì ha raccolto a sè dintorno: a un tempo
Ei la gran causa della fè tradita,
Dell' oltraggiato ciel, del volgo oppresso,
E delle infrante longobarde leggi
Sostien coll' armi; e vincitor lo spero.

ROSAMUNDA.

ACT FIRST.

SCENE I.

ROSAMUNDA, ROMILDA.

Ros. Perfidious maiden, in vain thou troublest Heaven with thy prayers! Continue, then, thy useless supplications: they are unheard! Meanwhile, the fierce striferages by the borders of the Ticinus. E'en here the noise of battle reaches me, and yet my heart is tranquil; nor doth it tremble betwixt hope and fear! The warlike valour of him who has lately become my husband, inspires me with the certainty that he will prove the victor!

Rom. If Almachilde be only as potent in the field as he was in this palace, when he treacherously murdered my father Alboin, of a surety he will conquer! But Clefis, who now doth fight against him, is not plunged in sleep, nor clasped in the arms of a guilty wife, as was Alboin on that fearful night! Clefis has gathered around him the flower of the brave! He is at once the champion of a faith betrayed, of outraged Heaven, of an oppressed people, and of the violated Lombard laws! May his arms be crowned with victory!