# JULIET'S LOVERS. IN THREE VOLUMES, VOL. II

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Juliet's Lovers. In Three Volumes, Vol. II by Mabel Collins

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### MABEL COLLINS

## JULIET'S LOVERS. IN THREE VOLUMES, VOL. II



## Juliet's Lovers

#### BY

### MABEL COLLINS

AUTHOR OF
"THE PRETTIEST WOMAN IN WARSAW," 'VIOLA FANSHAWE,"
"A DEBT OF HONOUR," ETC.

\*Fatul creature, bitter-sweet!" Sapuno,

IN THREE VOLUMES
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12 YORK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

1893



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## JULIET'S LOVERS.

#### CHAPTER I.

"YES-YES!" THE DECISION IS MADE.

Julier was sitting just where Denvil had left her when Lord Francis came in; she had not moved. She was lost in a deep reverie, from which it was difficult to rouse herself. Her father looked at her keenly. There was a change in her face which led him to the conclusion Victoria had reached the night before. "Something has happened—she's in love—who is it?"

But he knew her too well to try and force any confidence from her which she VOL. II.

was not ready to give. What he did was to exert his diplomatic faculties, and endeavour to make her see things from his point of view. His aim in spending his time with her to-day was to try and get a promise from her that she would not refuse Mannering if he asked her again. He thought he was quite clever enough to talk her into this; for he believed her to have inherited sufficient common sense from himself to appreciate the situation when properly put to her. He had not had time or opportunity to do this before, and had merely used his personal influence to get her to receive Mannering. He had then led Mannering to believe the refusal was practically withdrawn. If now he could induce Juliet to look at things reasonably, he felt that he could go to St Petersburg with a mind at ease. Victoria was excellent as a spy; he could rely on her to keep him informed of all that occurred in his absence.

This morning he had been a little too clever. He had wished to have Juliet alone, free from an influence which always irritated and annoyed him. He had therefore arranged, when he met them at the theatre the previous evening, for Victoria to do some commissions in town, which would take her the greater part of the day. They were affairs which Graham could have attended to equally well, partly in connection with the household, partly concerning Juliet's theatrical dresses; but Victoria, in her present state of obedience, always took a hint from her father. There was a great deal to do, in preparation for the long absence from home, and it was quite natural for Victoria to undertake some of it. She understood, by a word from