

# **THE TREMBLING OF THE VEIL**

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The trembling of the veil by W. B. Yeats

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**W. B. YEATS**

**THE TREMBLING  
OF THE VEIL**



*The* TREMBLING  
*of the* VEIL

*By*  
W. B. YEATS

LONDON  
PRIVATELY PRINTED FOR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY BY  
T. WERNER LAURIE, LTD.  
1922

To  
**JOHN QUINN**  
*my friend and helper,  
and friend and helper of certain people  
mentioned in this book.*

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THE  
TREMBLING OF THE VEIL

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*This edition consists of one thousand  
copies numbered and signed.*

*This is No.....24.....*

*W. S. G. G.*







## PREFACE



*I have found in an old diary a quotation from Stephane Mallarmé, saying that his epoch was troubled by the trembling of the veil of the Temple. As those words were still true, during the years of my life described in this book, I have chosen *The Trembling of the Veil* for its title.*

*Except in one or two trivial details, where I have the warrant of old friendship, I have not, without permission, quoted conversation or described occurrence from the private life of named or recognisable persons. I have not felt my freedom abated, for most of the friends of my youth are dead and over the dead I have an historian's rights. They were artists and writers and certain among them men of genius, and the life of a man of genius, because of his greater sincerity, is often an experiment that needs analysis and record. At least my generation so valued personality that it thought so. I have said all the good I know and all the evil: I have kept nothing back necessary to understanding.*

W. B. YEATS.

May, 1922.

Thoor Ballylee.

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