

THE HEART AND THE CROWN

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The Heart and the Crown by H. Rea Woodman

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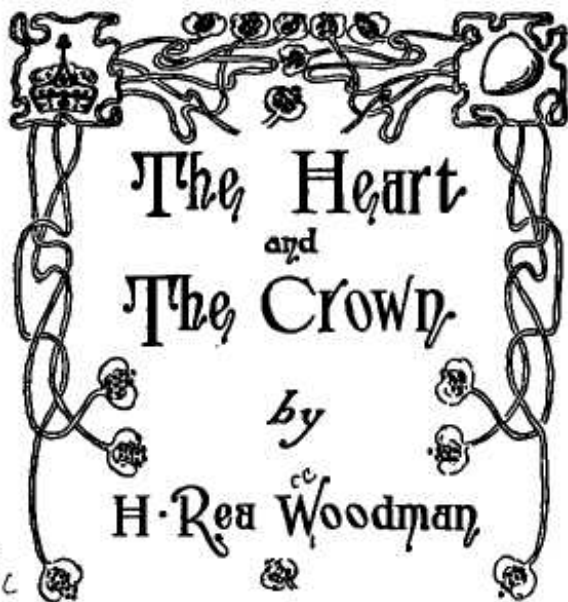
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H. REA WOODMAN

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1905



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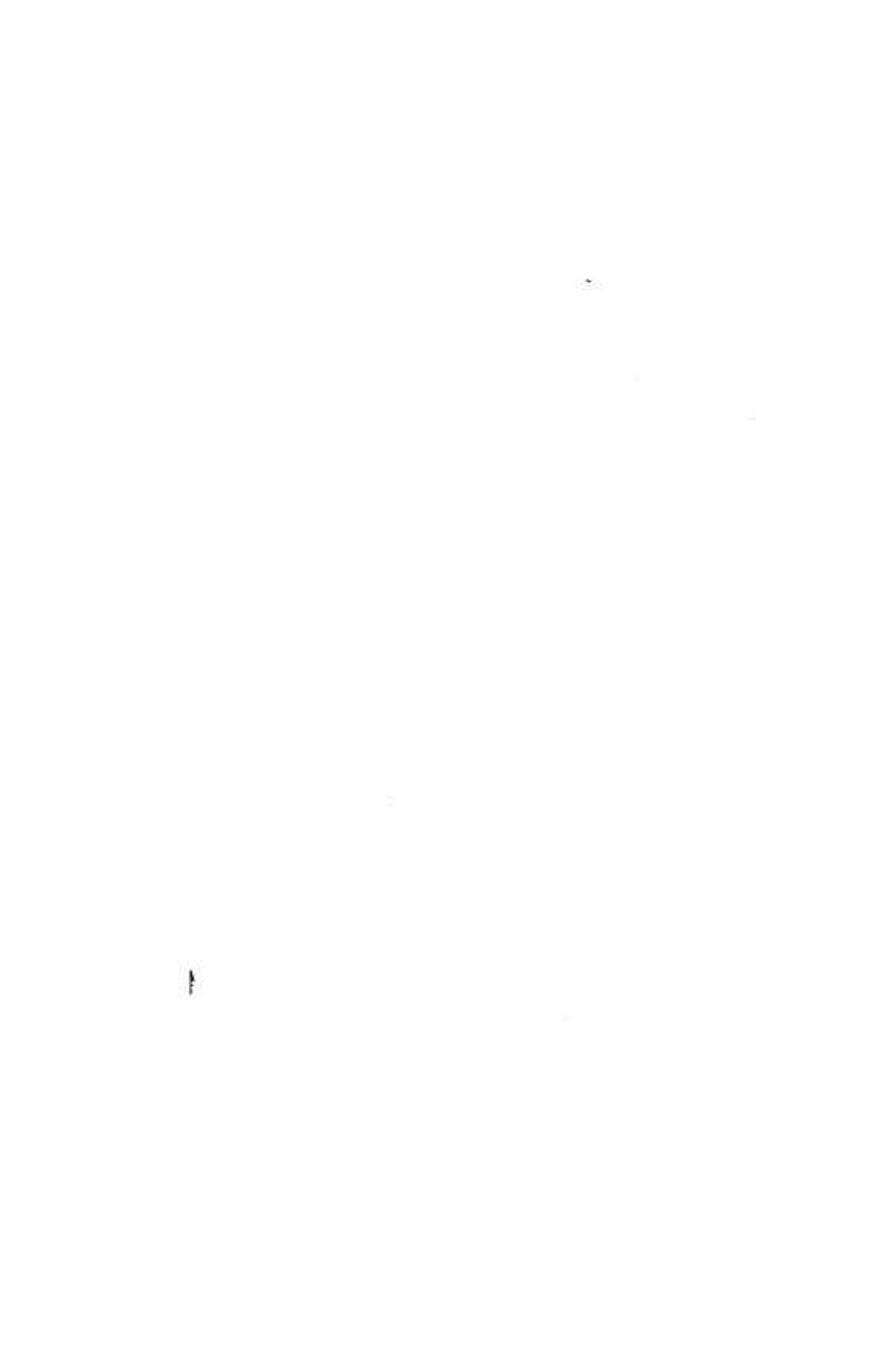
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To the highest in my life—my
keenest joy, my greatest grief.

WOR 19 FEB '36



The King's Heart



AS Hester Prynne, in her prison cell,
 Embroidered the scarlet with lines of gold,—
 Beautiful, intricate stitches which told
 Of a passion's depth words could not tell,
 Because she loved love too wholly well,—
 So I 'broider my pain, stitch it about
 With fair, useless lines, in and out, in and out,
 Dreaming, as I work, how our love befell.
 And every delicate stitch, Dear Heart,
 Tender, exquisite, wrought fast and true,
 Is making a marvel of what was mere woe,
 A barren, desolate thing apart.
 And I know now why, the wan days through,
 That sweet woman 'broidered the scarlet so.

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