

**PONTIUS PILATE, A
DRAMA: AND
OTHER POEMS**

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Pontius Pilate, a Drama: And Other Poems by Jeanie Morison

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JEANIE MORISON

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OTHER POEMS**

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A Drama

AND OTHER POEMS

BY

JEANIE MORISON

(MRS. CAMPBELL OF BALLOCHYLE)

AUTHOR OF "SNATCHES OF SONG"



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TO THEIR GRACES
THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF ARGYLL,
IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MANY
KINDNESSES.

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Dramatis Personæ.

PONTIUS PILATE (Procurator of Judea).

PROCLA (Wife of Pilate).

JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA.

CALAPHAS (High Priest of the Jews).

ANNAS (Father-in-law to Caiaphas).

LEVI (a Chief Priest).

SIMEON (an Elder).

VITELLIUS (Governor of Syria).

SEVERUS (Commander of Pilate's Troops).

JOANNA (a Jewish Girl, Maid to Procla).

AUGUR.

PULLARIUS.

ANTONIUS (Servant to Pilate).

JACOB (Servant to Caiaphas).

Centurion of the Guard in Jerusalem.

Two Soldiers of the Watch.

Slave to Pilate.

Spy.

PHŒBE (a Christian Lady, bearer of Paul's Epistle to the Romans).

POMPONIA GRECINA (a noble Roman Lady, wife of Aulus Plautius, first invader of Britain, who had been tried before her husband as a Christian, and acquitted by him).

AQUILA, PRISCILLA, and other Christians in Rome.

Scribes—Pharisee—Women in the crowd.

Centurions of Prætorian Guard—Messenger—Roman Citizens—Swiss Shepherd and Boy.

ACT I.

SCENE I.—PILATE'S *house in Jerusalem; evening.*

PROCLA *lying on a couch. Enter PILATE.*

Procla.

Who comes? My lord? Ah, Pilate! art thou come
To ease at last the fears that all day long
Like a black pall have hung about my couch,
Foreboding death and vengeance?—Good my lord,
Scare thou these phantoms with a word, and say
He is released—the man they call Jesus,
The Nazarene!—Why look'st thou sad?—Can 't be
The message tarried and thou hast condemned?
—Ah, then the gods are pitiless, and we
Devote to death!