

**JUDITH: A PLAY
IN THREE ACTS**

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Judith: A Play in Three Acts by Arnold Bennett

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ARNOLD BENNETT

**JUDITH: A PLAY
IN THREE ACTS**

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JUDITH

ARNOLD BENNETT

By ARNOLD BENNETT

NOVELS

THE ROLL-CALL
THE PRETTY LADY
THE LION'S SHARE
THREE TWAIN
CLAYHANGER
HILDA LESSWAYS
THE OLD WIVES' TALE
DENRY THE AUDACIOUS
THE OLD ADAM
HELEN WITH THE HIGH HAND
THE MATADOR OF THE FIVE TOWNS
THE BOOK OF CARLOTTA
BURIED ALIVE
A GREAT MAN
LEONORA
WHOM GOD HATH JOINED
A MAN FROM THE NORTH
ANNA OF THE FIVE TOWNS
THE GLIMPSE
THE CITY OF PLEASURE
THE GRAND BABELON HOTEL
HUGO
THE GATES OF WRATH

POCKET PHILOSOPHIES

SELF AND SELF-MANAGEMENT
THE AUTHOR'S CRAFT
MARRIED LIFE
FRIENDSHIP AND HAPPINESS
HOW TO LIVE ON 24 HOURS A DAY
THE HUMAN MACHINE
LITERARY TASTE
MENTAL EFFICIENCY

PLAYS

JUDITH
THE TITLÉ
THE GREAT ADVENTURE
CUPID AND COMMONSENSE
WHAT THE PUBLIC WANTS
POLITE FARCES
THE HONEYMOON
IN COLLABORATION WITH EDWARD KNORLAUCH
MILESTONES

MISCELLANEOUS

PARIS NIGHTS
THE TRUTH ABOUT AN AUTHOR
LIBERTY!
OVER THERE: WAR SCENES

**GEORGE H. DORAN COMPANY
NEW YORK**

J U D I T H.

A PLAY IN THREE ACTS,

FOUNDED ON THE APOCRYPHAL BOOK
OF "JUDITH",

BY

ARNOLD BENNETT

Author of "The Pretty Lady," "The Bell Call,"
"The Old Wives' Tale," "The Title," etc.

Wickham

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

GEORGE H. DORAN COMPANY
PUBLISHERS NEW YORK

CHARACTERS

Hebrews

- JUDITH
- HAGGITH, her waiting-woman
- RAHEL
- OZIAS, Governor of Bethulia
- CHABRIS, an elder
- CHARMIS, an elder
 - A soldier
 - A messenger

Assyrians

- HOLOFERNES, General of the Assyrian
armies
- BAGOAS, his chief eunuch
- ACHIOR, a captain
- INGUR, a soldier
 - An attendant on Bagoas

ACTS AND SCENES

ACT I

SCENE.—*A street in the city of Bethulia.*

ACT II

SCENE I. *The valley near the Assyrian camp.
Morning. Two days later.*

SCENE II. *The tent of Holofernes. Later, the
same morning.*

SCENE III. *The same. The same night.*

ACT III

SCENE I. *Same as Act I. Later, the same
night.*

SCENE II. *The same. The next day.*

JUDITH

ACT I

SCENE.—*A street in the city of Bethulia in Judea. Bethulia is in the hill country, overlooking the great plain of Jezreel to the south-west. Back, the gates of the city, hiding the view of the plain. Right, Judith's house, with a tent on the roof. Left, houses. The street turns abruptly, back left, along the wall of the city. Left centre, a built-up vantage-point, from which the plain can be seen over the gates.*

TIME.—*Fifth century B. C. Towards evening.*

Ozias is standing alone in the street, drinking from a leathern bottle. Enter Chabris, back left.

Ozias [quickly, but with perfect calmness, hiding the bottle in his garments]. Old man! It is years since I saw you. How came you past the guard, old man?

Chabris. Old? Old? I am not yet a hundred. Who are you?

Ozias. Ozias.