## WEE WILLIE WINKIE AND OTHER STORIES; IN TWO VOLUMES, VOL. II

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Wee Willie Winkie and other stories; in two volumes, Vol. II by Rudyard Kipling

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### **RUDYARD KIPLING**

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AND OTHER STORIES

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IN TWO VOLUMES
VOL. II

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# THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING

#### THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING

Brother to a Prince and fellow to a beggar if he be found worthy

THE Law, as quoted, lays down a fair conduct of life, and one not easy to follow. I have been fellow to a beggar again and again under circumstances which prevented either of us finding out whether the other was worthy. I have still to be brother to a Prince, though I once came near to kinship with what might have been a veritable King, and was promised the reversion of a Kingdom—army, law-courts, revenue, and policy all complete. But, to-day, I greatly fear that my King is dead, and if I want a crown I must go hunt it for myself.

The beginning of everything was in a railway train upon the road to Mhow from Ajmir. There had been a Deficit in the Budget, which necessitated travelling, not Second-class, which is only half as