

**BIANCA CAPPELLO:
A
TRAGEDY, PP. 1-143**

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Bianca Cappello: A Tragedy, pp. 1-143 by Elizabeth C. Kinney

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ELIZABETH C. KINNEY

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SOME OF THE HISTORICAL AUTHORITIES
FOR THE FACTS OF THE DRAMA.



Napier's Florentine History.

Florence et ses Vicissitudes. By Monsieur Delécluse.

L'Osservatore Fiorentino.

Memorie di Bianca Cappello. By Stefano Tionzzi, etc., etc.

PERSONS OF THE DRAMA.

FRANCESCO, *Prince Regent, afterwards Grand Duke of Florence, and son of Cosimo de Medici.*

FERDINANDO, *Cardinal de Medici, brother of Francesco.*

SERGUIDI, *minister, and confidant of the Prince Regent.*

FRA FORTUNATO, *a monk, confidant of Ferdinando.*

BARTOLOMEO CAPPELLO, *a Venetian nobleman, and father of Bianca.*

PATRIARCH D'AQUILIA, *his brother.*

ROBERTO RICCI, *a noble Florentine.*

MANDRAGONI, *maestro of the ducal palace.*

BUONAVENTURI, *humble citizen of Florence.*

PIETRO, *his son.*

GIOVANNI, *servant of the Cardinal.*

JEANNE, *Archduchess of Austria, wife of Francesco.*

BIANCA CAPPELLO, *wife of Pietro.*

MADAME MANDRAGONI, *wife of the maestro.*

COSTANZA, *wife of Buonaventuri, and mother of Pietro.*

ANNE, *Austrian maid of the Archduchess.*

Citizens, servants, etc.

SCENE: *at Venice, Florence and its environs.*

TIME: *latter part of the sixteenth century.*



SCENE I. — *Venice.*

Grand Canal by moonlight. BARTOLOMEO CAPPELLO and PATRIARCH D'AQUILEA issue hastily from a palace, conversing in an excited manner.

AQUILEA.

Peace! peace, my lord! This is a fruitless rage;
Husband thy forces for judicial acts.

CAPPELLO.

Talk not of peace — war only is the word!
Already civil war is in my heart —
Pride wrestles there with pride: that proud intent,
To wed my only daughter with a prince,
Hath driven her from me with a beggar's son,
And thus the strife within which makes me mad.

AQUILEA.

What! hast no thought of vengeance? now, by
Heaven!

I thought our blood was nobler than the asp's,
Which turns to pierce itself with that same sting
Whose venom might have worked its own escape!
I am for vengeance! not ignoble war: