

FIVE PLAYS

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Five plays by George Fitzmaurice

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THE COUNTRY DRESSMAKER
THE MOONLIGHTER
THE PIE-DISH
THE MAGIC GLASSES
THE DANDY DOLLS

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1914

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THE COUNTRY DRESSMAKER

CHARACTERS

JULIA SHEA, *a country dressmaker.*

NORRY SHEA, *her mother.*

MATT DILLANE, *their neighbour.*

MIN, *his daughter.*

MICHAEL CLOHESY, *a strong farmer.*

MARYANNE, *his wife.*

BABE } *their daughters.*
ELLIE }

JACK, *their son.*

PATS CONNOR, *a returned American.*

LUKE QUILTER, *the man from the mountains.*

EDMUND NORMYLE.

THE SCENE IS LAID IN KERRY.

*Time—The First and Second Acts occur on the same day;
the Third Act after an interval of three weeks.*

ACT I

SCENE.—Interior of NORRY SHEA'S kitchen. At left is the entrance door. Window at right of door. Small deal table under window. Dresser at left. Fireplace at right. JULIA SHEA is seated on sugar chair right of table, reading a novelette. She puts it down, takes a photograph out of a small box on table, and looks at it.

JULIA. When I do look at his likeness, I do be ashamed of the little doubts that come to me of late. But how can I help them and the way you are all reflecting on Pats and set on my marrying Edmund Normyle? Ah, God knows what struggles Pats has in Pittsburg to make that pile he writes about to the Clohesys. (*Takes up novelette.*) Lady Gwendolen, how true she was to Sir Geoffrey, and all the temptations that came her way! She had a sound and loyal heart. (MIN DILLANE *comes in unperceived.*) Still, she never thought more of him than I do of Pats. Ah, Pats, Pats, the wide world hasn't the equal or the likes of you, Pats Connor.

MIN. Well, Julia Shea, you're the show of the world with that old likeness, gaping and moaning over it these seven years and more.

JULIA. Min Dillane, it's very abrupt you are entirely. (*Pause.*) If you only knew what it was to have the right love. If you had only known Pats Connor!