

**A WAIF
TO THE SEA**

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A Waif to the Sea by Kate Wood

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KATE WOOD

**A WAIF
TO THE SEA**



Frontispiece. MR. BARKER RECEIVING HIS LITTLE GUESTS.

A
WAIF OF THE SEA.

BY
KATE WOOD,
AUTHOR OF "LORY BELL," &c.

ILLUSTRATED.



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A WAIF OF THE SEA.

CHAPTER I.

HOW NELLIE MADE A FRIEND.

THE evening was closing in, and the London streets were full of mud and slush.

Several heavy showers of sleet and rain had fallen during the day, and with a dark leaden sky overhead came a sharp biting March wind, that, "gentle as a lamb in the morning, was now raging fierce as a roaring lion."

It was all very well for those who were warm and comfortably sheltered in-doors, but cold and cheerless enough for the people in the streets, who, hurrying along with bent heads, watery eyes, and blue pinched noses, had to encounter its keen blasts.

Protecting wraps were flung open, hats whirled