

**IF I WERE  
KING, PP. 1-264**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649610938

If I Were King, pp. 1-264 by Justin Huntly McCarthy

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Cover @ 2017

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**JUSTIN HUNTLY MCCARTHY**

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**IF I WERE KING**



"Alas for lovers! Pair by pair  
The Wind has blown them all away;  
The young and yare, the fond and fair;  
Where are the Snows of Yesterday?"



# IF I WERE KING

BY  
JUSTIN HUNTLY McCARTHY



HARPER & BROTHERS PUBLISHERS  
NEW YORK AND LONDON

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HARPER & BROTHERS, NEW YORK

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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**DEDICATION**

**To Her**

**Through Whom and For Whom**

**This Book was Written**

**"The Loveliest Lady this side of Heaven."**

**XXI. XII. MCML.**

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If I were king—ah love, if I were king!  
What tributary nations would I bring  
To stoop before your sceptre and to swear  
Allegiance to your lips and eyes and hair.  
Beneath your feet what treasures I would fling:—  
The stars should be your pearls upon a string,  
The world a ruby for your finger ring,  
And you should have the sun and moon to wear  
If I were king.

Let these wild dreams and wilder words take wing,  
Deep in the woods I hear a shepherd sing  
A simple ballad to a sylvan air,  
Of love that ever finds your face more fair.  
I could not give you any godlier thing  
If I were king.