

# **THE INNOCENTS; A STORY FOR LOVERS**

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The innocents; a story for lovers by Sinclair Lewis

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**SINCLAIR LEWIS**

**THE INNOCENTS; A  
STORY FOR LOVERS**



**THE INNOCENTS**

BOOKS BY  
SINCLAIR LEWIS

THE INNOCENTS  
THE JOB  
THE TRAIL OF THE HAWK  
OUR MR. WRENN

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HARPER & BROTHERS, NEW YORK  
(ESTABLISHED 1817)





THE INNOCENTS



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A STORY FOR LOVERS

BY  
SINCLAIR LEWIS

AUTHOR OF  
"THE TRAIL OF THE HAWK"  
"THE JOB" ETC.



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## A DEDICATORY INTRODUCTION

If this were a ponderous work of realism, such as the author has attempted to write, and will doubtless essay again, it would be perilous to dedicate it to the splendid assembly of young British writers, lest the critics search for Influences and Imitations. But since this is a flagrant excursion, a tale for people who still read Dickens and clip out spring poetry and love old people and children, it may safely confess the writer's strident admiration for Compton Mackenzie, Hugh Walpole, Oliver Onions, D. H. Lawrence, J. D. Beresford, Gilbert Cannan, Patrick MacGill, and their peers, whose novels are the histories of our contemporaneous Golden Age. Nor may these be mentioned without a yet more enthusiastic tribute to their master and teacher (he probably abominates being called either a master or a teacher), H. G. Wells.