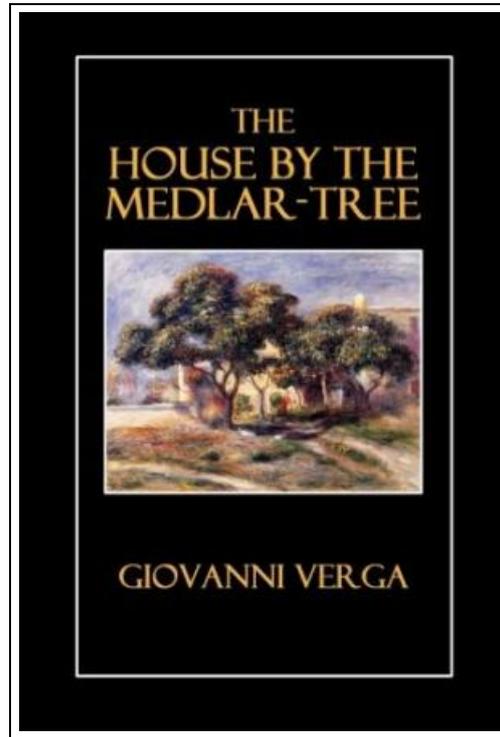


The House by the Medlar-Tree



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Reviews

Completely essential read through publication. It normally does not expense excessive. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.

(Morris Cruickshank)

THE HOUSE BY THE MEDLAR-TREE



Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.An excerpt of a review from *The Critic: An Illustrated Monthly Review of Literature, Art and Life*, Volume 20 [1892]: Italy's Greatest Living Novelist. Those persons in England who have never heard, in any other way, of Italy's greatest contemporary novelist, have become familiar with his name of late, thanks to the success achieved by Mascagni's opera, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, which owes no little of its strength and originality to its libretto, derived from a novelette of Verga, bearing this title. Giovanni Verga is unquestionably the most original and powerful of living Italian novelists. He is to their prose what Giosue Carducci is to their poetry, a new departure, a path-finder. Verga has been the first in his country to accept the naturalist movement in dealing with novels, and to break with the romantic traditions impressed on modern Italian literature by Manzoni with his famous novel, *I Promessi Sposi*. It is happily difficult to classify Verga, happily we say advisedly, because in his variety lies his strength and his freshness. He is certainly no idealist, no pattern has been shown him on the Mount, or if there has, he uses it to verify deviations only. Among his people one finds no angels and no heroes, though more than one of them is capable of heroism in a quiet way, like Mena in the *Malavoglia*, a character which is worthy to be put beside that of Jeanie Deans. Mena is as intensely Italian as Jeanie is intensely Scotch. In all his works, Verga is true to nature, whether in the surroundings of his characters or in the characters themselves; whether it be nature uncultivated, undisciplined, uncontrolled, or...



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