



The Romance of a Shop

By Amy Levy

Black Apollo, United Kingdom, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 214 x 138 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Romance of A Shop was first published in 1888. Praised by Oscar Wilde who thought it admirably done . clever and full of quick observation, her little novel seemed to herald a brilliant career. The book is ostensibly the story of four young ladies who, after the death of their father, decide to open a photographic studio in the heart of London's bohemia (to the dismay of their more priggish relatives). Like much of Levy's work, the novel is concerned with the contradictions besetting the new Victorian woman and her quest for independence despite being constrained by anachronistic social mores and conflicting values. Written just two years before her tragic suicide, a few months short of her 28th birthday, The Romance of A Shop, has a resonance that goes beyond its apparent innocence, echoing an undertone of despair and hunger for a liberation that, to Levy's misfortune, came only some years afterwards.



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