

**THE NEEDLE'S EYE. By Florence Morse Kingsley. Illustrated.
Cloth, 386 pp. Price, \$1.50. New York: Funk & Wagnalls
Company.**

This is a pure, wholesome story, written in a simple style and devoid of any strong dramatic situations or powerful passages. It is permeated by a noble altruistic spirit and its teachings are of the highest.

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It is divided into three parts: "The Foundling," "The Altruist," and "The Conqueror." The author is wanting in the power of expression—the brilliancy, keen penetration, and the ability to say much in epigram and to paint vivid pictures in a few incisive words—that characterizes Mrs. Craigie's novel; but she is actuated by the lofty motive of making the world better and happier by the telling of her story. And it is safe to say that no one can thoughtfully peruse this work without being made the better for its reading or without feeling the moral and altruistic impulses of his nature quickened and the finer emotions of his being—which modern commercial life tends to blunt and deaden—refreshed and revived by the story of an old man, who through suffering much and living near to Nature's heart has come to reflect the higher nature, and an orphan boy, long supposed to be penniless but who in reality is the heir to millions.

Perhaps the most powerful part of the story deals with the life of these two during the formative period of the boy's career—the years spent while the old man teaches by precept and example the old story, nowhere so beautifully unfolded as in the life of love lived by the Great Nazarene in far-away Palestine. After describing how the boy gained year by year in soul stature as well as physical growth, the author passes to the third division of the book—the struggles, temptations, and ultimate victory of the youth. Very faithfully does she describe the sorrow incident to the ingratitude and lack of appreciation on the part of the unfortunate ones whom the rich young man strives so manfully to aid to help themselves. But his bitterest experiences and most sore temptations are connected with the affairs of his heart, in which first a rich young lady and later the daughter of a farmer strive to seduce him from the altruistic path into a path of ease, idleness, luxury, and egoism.

This volume merits a wide circulation by reason of the noble lesson it inculcates. If parents would read it aloud to their children at the fireside during the long winter evenings, it would do much toward ennobling the lives of the young and placing higher and finer ideals before the receptive mind of youth.