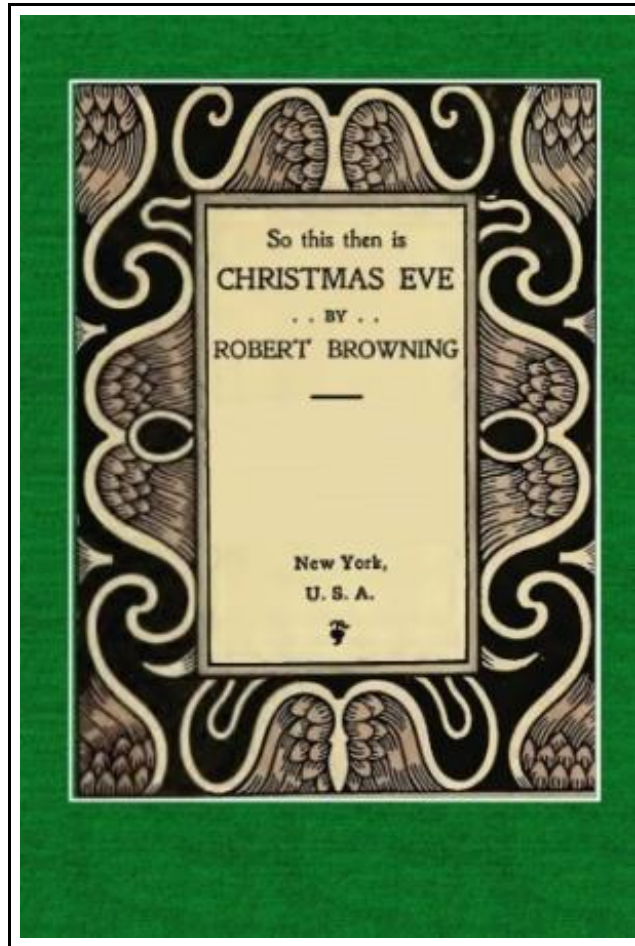


## So This Then Is Christmas Eve



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## SO THIS THEN IS CHRISTMAS EVE



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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.From the INTRODUCTION. WE find Robert Browning deeply religious, though he is never sanctimonious. Cant and ceremony, form without substance, anything that savors of falsity, is to his mind the unpardonable and death-dealing sin. At least, pure humor and true religiousness go hand in hand on this happy Christmas Eve, and is injured. The joyousness which bejewels everything at Christmas time sparkles all through the poem, as though the very angels had come from heaven to sing again with men. It is a very human song, and therefore a true one, handling with deepest insight the ludicrous, the unreal and the dishonest. It discovers the false as well as the true, first in the simple chapel service of the ignorant, next in the rainbow religion of the poet, and last in the emptiness of the rationalistic worship of a myth. It seeks and discovers the real, as the bee finds the honey. The native intuitions of the human soul, the primal elements in man, are what Mr. Browning is always interested in and taking account of, whether found in the learned or the unlearned, in the rich or the poor. Whatever is real, Adham, Adam, Man, hu-man, this is what always contains depths and heights of interest for him. What he deplores and ridicules most of all is the nullified man or woman, the inconsistent, the unnatural, the untrue. The soul, little else, is worth study, is a favorite quotation among Browning readers, taken from his introductory note to Sordello. In whatsoever condition the soul is, it is still his immortal theme. The Soul s Tragedy, to his mind, occurs, when all primal elements are...



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