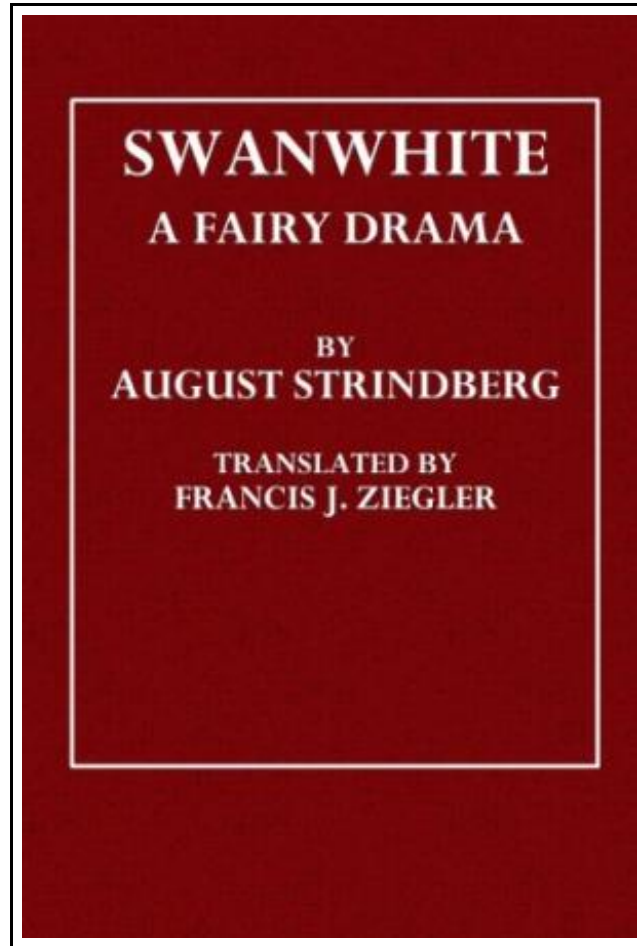


Swanwhite



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Reviews

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SWANWHITE



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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.From the Foreword. A LOVE idyl in the form of a drama; a fairy drama at that, with characters and incidents reminiscent of Grimm s Maerchen; is hardly what one would expect from the pen of an avowed misogynist, a playwright whose usual work out-lbsens Ibsen in realism, and who has an almost diabolical genius for dissecting a woman s soul and laying bare its faults and weaknesses. Such an idyl, however, August Strindberg has given us in Swanwhite, a play more suggestive of Maeterlinck than of any other modern writer, save possibly Gerhart Hauptmann. Swanwhite is the direct outcome of a love affair of its author, (which suggests that Strindberg s misogyny may be due more to an extreme idealization of woman than to an inborn dislike of the fair sex), as it was written partly just before, and partly just after his marriage to Harriet Bosse, the Swedish actress, in the spring of 1901. Maeterlinck s personality, too, may have had something to do with its form, as Strindberg met the Belgian poet about the same time he was writing this little drama. Swanwhite is remarkable also as being one of the very few plays Strindberg has written with a literary flavor, his ordinary custom being to make his dialogue as realistic as possible, quite regardless of rhetorical nourishes. If passages in the following translation appear stilted to the reader, he is asked to remember that Strindberg has invested his original with verbal forms never used in ordinary conversation, the evident intent being to produce an atmosphere of artificiality. I have thought it necessary to retain the second personal pronoun as a familiar form of address,...



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