



Wilde in an Hour (Playwrights in an Hour)

Emily Esfahani Smith

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BOOK SYNOPSIS After a meeting with Pope Pius IX, Oscar Wilde locked himself in his room emerging only after writing a sonnet inspired by and dedicated to the Pope. Hours later, he visited the protestant cemetery where the Romantic poet, John Keats, was buried. Kneeling at his grave, Wilde ostentatiously declared it to be the holiest place in Rome. Did Oscar Wilde contradict himself? Did he contain multitudes? He did, to underestimate the matter --- and those complexities were best expressed in his great theatrical works like *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *Salome*, and, of course, *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Setting the playwright in context to his personal life, social, historical and political events, other writers of influence, and more, you will quickly gain a deep understanding of Wilde and the plays he wrote. Read **Wilde in an Hour** and experience his plays like never before. **Know the playwright, love the play!**

SELLING POINTS The book features:

- **Wilde in an Hour, the main essay of the book**
- **Wilde In a Minute, a snapshot chronology**
- **A complete listing of Wilde's work**
- **A list of Wilde's contemporaries in all fields**
- **Excerpts from Wilde's significant works**
- **An extensive bibliography grouped according to type of reader**
- **An index of the main essay.**

THE SERIES *Playwrights in an Hour* is a series devoted to the most produced and studied playwrights in the English language, from the Greek masters to contemporary writers, and written by leading authorities in the field. Each short book places the playwright and his or her work in historical, social, and literary context.

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