



The Gadfly

By Ethel Lilian Voynich

Fredonia Books (NL). Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 340 pages. Dimensions: 8.1in. x 5.0in. x 0.9in. When The Gadfly was first published in 1897, the publishers feared an outcry amongst the public against its subject of revolution and revolt. But instead, it was greeted with enthusiasm and became one of the first of the large number of social and political novels in world literature today. A story of love and conspiracy within the Italian Risorgimento. The authors research included the Marucelliana Library of Florence and the State Archives and Civic Museum of Bologna. She was the girlfriend of Sidney Rosenblum, otherwise known in Britain as Sidney Reilly or Reilly Ace of Spies. With Rosenblums last 300 the couple went off to Italy. Here under the Mediterranean sun and under the influence of the Roman Catholic religion, which touched every facet of Italian life and awoke emotionally charged memories of his Catholic upbringing, Sidney bared his soul to his mistress. He was not angry when she later published The Gadfly, much praised by the critics, which was largely inspired by his early life. Although she wrote other books, the author was never to repeat the success of this book, her first. Since...

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