

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE

THIS VERSION OF “Monna Vanna” advances no claim to absolute literalness. It has been prepared for stage presentation; and certain expressions, perfectly inoffensive in the original, have been modified, brought into line with English ways of speech.

There are words in our language that, to use Mr. Meredith’s phrase, “for the sake of dignity, blush to be named,” and such blushes may fitly be spared when a paraphrase is ready to hand. It remains only to be said that M. Maeterlinck’s work, pure and lofty throughout, has been altered only at most immaterial points; and that no alteration whatever has been made without the full approval of the author.

Reference: Maurice Maeterlinck, *Monna Vanna. A Drama in Three Acts*, translated by Alfred Sutro, Toronto, The Musson Book Company, Ltd. 1911 (c1904), p. v.