

**THE FAITHFUL; A
TRAGEDY IN
THREE ACTS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649391134

The faithful; a tragedy in three acts by John Masefield

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JOHN MASEFIELD

**THE FAITHFUL; A
TRAGEDY IN
THREE ACTS**

THE FAITHFUL

BY THE SAME AUTHOR

THE DAFFODIL FIELDS

PHILIP THE KING, and other
Poems

THE EVERLASTING MERCY and
THE WIDOW IN THE BYE
STREET (1 volume)

THE STORY OF A ROUND-HOUSE,
and other Poems

SALT WATER BALLADS

A MAINSAIL HAUL

THE TRAGEDY OF POMPEY THE
GREAT

THE FAITHFUL

A TRAGEDY IN THREE ACTS

BY

JOHN MASEFIELD

AUTHOR OF "THE TRAGEDY OF POMPEY THE GREAT,"
"THE EVERLASTING MERCY," ETC.

New York

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1915

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BY JOHN MASEFIELD

Set up and electrotyped. Published September, 1915.

To

MY WIFE

THIS BOOK IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED

NOTE

This play is written to be played uninterruptedly, without more break in the action than is necessary to get the actors off the stage and to raise the screen or curtain dividing the scenes.

There are only two scenes: one the front part of the stage, left quite bare, without decoration, but with a screen, set, or backcloth at the back, representing a Japanese landscape, with hills and water, all wintry and severe; the other, the back of the stage, visible when this screen is lifted, a room in a Japanese palace, very beautiful, but bare, save for a few flowers and a picture or two.

A few minutes may elapse between Acts I and II, and a slightly longer wait between Acts II and III.

PERSONS

ASANO, A Daimyo.
KURANO, his Counsellor.
HAZAMA.
SHODA.
KIRA, A Daimyo.
SAGISAKA, his Counsellor.
KAMEI, A Daimyo.
HONZO, his Counsellor.
A YOUTH of Kira's palace.
A WOMAN of Kira's palace.
THE ENVOY.
A POOR GIRL.
LADY KURANO.
A CAPTAIN of Kira's guards.
CHIKARA, Kurano's son.
FIRST RONIN.
SECOND do.
THIRD do.
FOURTH do.
FIFTH do.
A HERALD.
Guards, Nobles, Attendants, Ronin.

In Act I, Scene I, throughout Act II, and in Scenes I, II, and IV of Act III, the scene is: An open space near ASANO's palace.

In Act I, Scene II and in Act III, Scene III, the scene is: A room in KIRA's palace.

TIME

Acts I and II, 10th March, 1701.

Act III, 10th March, 1702.