# JULIAN: A TRAGEDY IN FIVE ACTS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649432295

Julian: A Tragedy in Five Acts by Mary Russell Mitford

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## MARY RUSSELL MITFORD

## JULIAN: A TRAGEDY IN FIVE ACTS



## JULIAN,

## A TRAGEDY

IN FIVE ACTS.

MARY RUSSELL MITFORD.

SECOND EDITION.

LONDON:
G. AND W. B. WHITTAKER,

AVE-MARIA LANE.

1823.

### WILLIAM CHARLES MACREADY, Esq.

WITH HIGH ESTEEM FOR THOSE
ENDOWMENTS WHICH HAVE CAST NEW LUSTEE ON HIS ART;

WITH WARM ADMIRATION FOR THOSE POWERS WHICH HAVE INSPIRED,

and that taste which has fostered, the track dramatists of his age ;  $$\cdot$$  .

WITH BEARTFELT GRATITUDE FOR THE SEAL WITH WHICH HE
BEFRIENDED

THE PRODUCTION OF A STRANGER,

FOR THE JUDICIOUS ALTERATIONS WHICH HE SUGGESTED,

AND FOR

THE ENERGY THE PATROS AND THE SKILL

WITH WHICH

HE MORE THAN EMBODIED ITS PRINCIPAL CHARACTER;

This Tragedy

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY

THE AUTHOR.

### ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Story and Characters of the following Tragedy, are altogether fictitious. Annabel's cautions to silence in the first Scene, and the short dialogue between her and Julian, after he awakens, will be recognised by the classical reader as borrowed from the fine opening of the Orestes of Euripides; the incident of uncovering the body in the last Act, is also taken from the Electra of Sophocles. Of any other intentional imitation, the Author is unconscious.

She has now the pleasant task of conveying her acknowledgments to the whole of the Performers, for the zealous co-operation which has so much contributed to the success of the Play. To the talents of Miss Foote, Miss Lacy, Mr. Abbott, and Mr. Bennett, she is more especially indebted—and to Mr. Macready beyond all.

That it has been honoured by the particular approbation of such a judge, and has given occasion to one of the most splendid exertions of such an Actor, will ever be the proudest distinction of Julian.

### CHARACTERS.

ALFONSO, King of Sicily, a boy, dis- | Miss FOOTE. guised as Theodore The DURE of MELFI, Uncle to Alfonso Mr. BENNETT. and Regent of the Kingdom -Mr.MACREADY. JULIAN, Melfi's Son COUNT D'ALBA, a powerful Nobleman Mr. ABBOTT. (Mr. BAKER. LEANTI Mr. CHAPMAN. CALVI Mr. LEY. PAOLO, Julian's Servant Mr. COMER. BERTONE, Servant to Count D'Alba Mr. MEARS. RENEI, an old Huntsman An ARCHBISHOP.

Nobles, Prelates, Officers, Guards, Murderers, &c.

Annabel, Julian's Wife - - Miss Lacy.

The Scene is in and near Messina; the time of action two days.

8.

To 28

92. 23

### PROLOGUE,

### WRITTEN BY A FRIEND.

### SPOKEN BY MR. CONNOR.

THEY who in Prologues for your favours ask, Find every season more perplex their task; Though doubts and hopes, and tremblings do not fail, The points fall flatly and the rhymes grow stale; Why should the Author hint their fitting parts, In all the pomp of Verse, to "British hearts?" Why to such minds as yours with ardour pray, For more than justice to a first essay? What need to shew how absolute your power? What stake awaits the issue of the hour-How hangs the scale 'twixt agony and joy, What bliss you nourish, or what hopes destroy?-All these you feel; -and yet we scarce can bring A Prologue to "the posey of a ring." To what may we allude ?-Our plot untold Is no great chapter from the times of old; On no august association rests, But seeks its earliest home in kindly breasts,-