

**A WOMAN FREE,
AND OTHER POEMS**

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A Woman Free, and Other Poems by Ruth LaPrade

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RUTH LAPRADE

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By RUTH LA PRADE

Ruth La Prade
Introduction by
1941

EDWIN MARKHAM

Eugene S. Pruss



GREAT ADVENTURE EDITION

Published by
J. F. ROWNY PRESS
Los Angeles, Cal.

TO MY MOTHER AND FATHER
TO
RESIN A. AND MILA TUPPER MAYNARD
AND TO YOU, COMRADE,
WHOEVER YOU ARE.

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THE MIGHTY REBEL

DEDICATED TO THE GREAT ADVENTURE

I am the Rebel—the mighty Rebel!
My soul has burst its bonds with love.
In me is all power, all strength;
In me is that which is unconquerable but which con-
quers all;
In me the dream of beauty;
In me the perfect faith.

I am the Rebel—the mighty Rebel!
I am he who hopes all, dares all, wins all.
I am the Lover of men.
I will shake down every king from off his throne;
I will humble every empire to the dust.
The chains of men I will break asunder;
The prison doors I will fling wide.
The outgrown creeds and laws I cast aside.
The implements of war and death I burn up with the
passion of my love.
Man shall be free—
He shall be free at last!

I am the Rebel—the mighty Rebel!
Over the world I hurl my song—and well may the
Masters tremble!
Thruout all time they sought to bind me;
They hounded me and threatened;
They builded for me prisons;
They crucified my body;
But I was far above it;
My soul they could not touch.
The earth is fertile with my blood—
And from it shall spring Freedom!

[A WOMAN FREE and other Poems]

I am the Rebel—the mighty Rebel!
Destructive and constructive—both am I.
With the potent passion of my love I burn all evil,
ignorance, and lust;
All tyranny and greed to ashes turn.
Beneath the mighty passion of my love
The souls of men burst thru the husks
And dare!—
Dare to be free, to know, to love, to live—
Dare to be men
After centuries of pain.

I am the Rebel—the mighty Rebel!
I am the builder of the world!
I build with courage and with strength;
I build with beauty and with love;
I build the Dream into the hearts of men;
I build the great new world of Brotherhood;
The world where poverty is not,
The world that has forgotten war and greed,
The world where every soul shall live its fullest love
Unhampered and unbound—
The world of freedom and of joy.

I am the Rebel—the mighty Rebel!
I am the Lover of men!

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