IS AUSTRIA DOOMED?

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Is Austria doomed? by The Countess Zanardi Landi

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AUTHOR OF
THE SECRET OF AN EMPRESS'



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THE COUNTESS ZANARDI LANDI

AUTHOR OF "THE SECRET OF AN EMPRESS"

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PREFACE

HO isit? What is it? Whence does this evil, this destructive power take its origin, this power which makes the Austrians, the Austrians of varying religions, of differing nationalities, the most wronged, the most suppressed nation on earth?

It is a question that cannot be answered in a few words. To get to the bottom of it, one must dissect, one must collect details, one must analyse like the surgeon who probes to the depth of a wound, cutting away the proud flesh; one must go to the very heart of the matter.

The beautiful old house, shaking to its very foundations, yet to be preserved for its fine historical significance—its ancestry, its tradition—must be restored stone by stone. So must we investigate the Austrian question.

Preface

It must be carefully handled lest the house founder in a lamentable heap of ruins. That is the object which I have set before myself in this book.

The moment has come when facts can prove that what I am saying is true. It is not to slur over matters, not to retail gossip that I write this little volume. Always I hold in front of me the conviction that I am speaking in the name of the Austrians—those millions of oppressed ones who, crushed by an invisible power, are not allowed to speak for themselves. They must raise their voices in shouts of enthusiasm while their hearts are heavy with sadness and images of death darken their imagination.

To speak in their name is not only my wish, but my sacred duty, for, unlike them, I enjoy the privilege of living on the sheltering soil where Freedom reigns supreme!