

**SALOMÉ. A TRAGEDY IN
ONE ACT. TRANSLATED
FROM THE FRENCH**

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Salomé. A Tragedy in One Act. Translated from the French by Oscar Wilde & Aubrey Beardsley

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OSCAR WILDE & AUBREY BEARDSLEY

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SALOMÉ

A TRAGEDY IN ONE ACT:
TRANSLATED FROM THE
FRENCH OF OSCAR WILDE

PICTURED BY
AUBREY BEARDSLEY

BOSTON
JOHN W. LUCE & CO.

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1912

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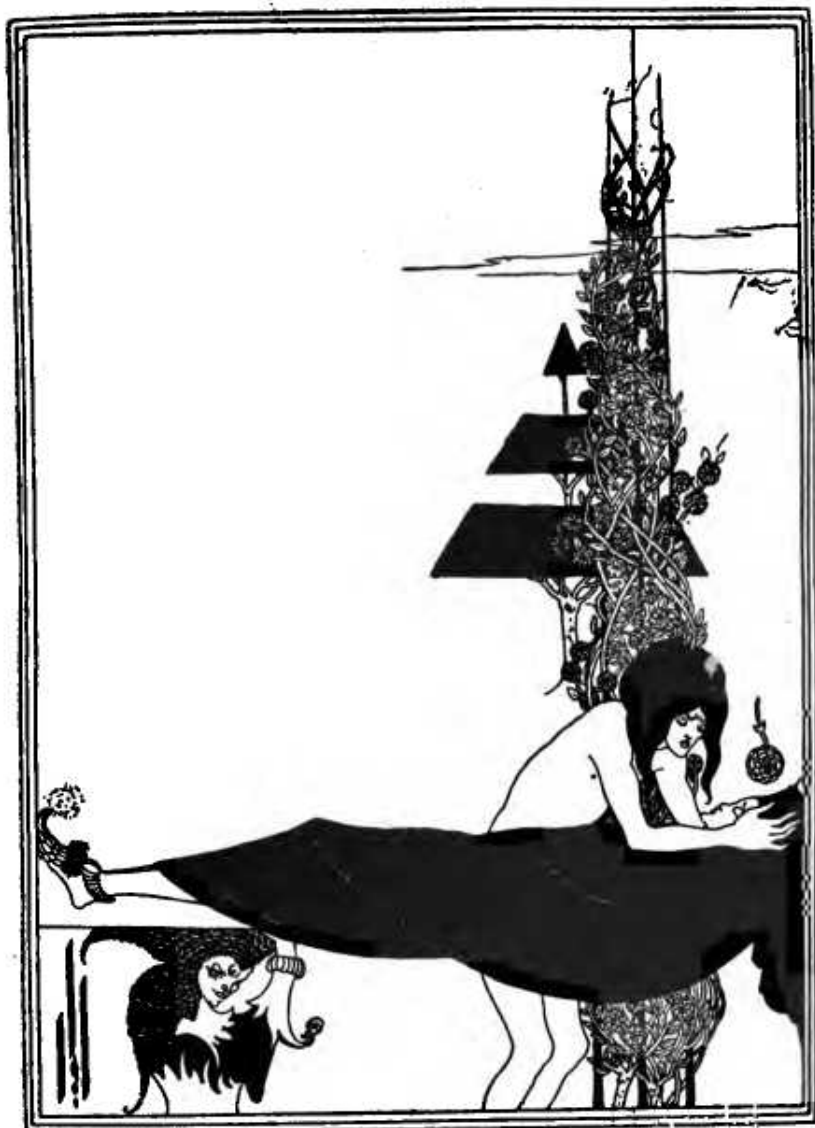


LIST OF THE PICTURES
BY AUBREY BEARDSLEY.

1. COVER DESIGN.
2. TITLE PAGE.
3. LIST OF THE PICTURES.
4. THE WOMAN IN THE MOON.
5. THE PEACOCK SKIRT.
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12. THE TOILETTE OF SALOMÉ.
13. THE TOILETTE OF SALOMÉ.
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15. THE CLIMAX.
16. CUL DE LAMPE.

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SCENE

[A great terrace in the Palace of HEROD, set above the banquetting-hall. Some soldiers are leaning over the balcony. To the right there is a gigantic staircase, to the left, at the back, an old cistern surrounded by a wall of green bronze. The moon is shining very brightly.]

THE YOUNG SYRIAN

How beautiful is the Princess Salomé to-night!

THE PAGE OF HERODIAS

Look at the moon. How strange the moon seems! She is like a woman rising from a tomb. She is like a dead woman. One might fancy she was looking for dead things.

THE YOUNG SYRIAN

She has a strange look. She is like a little princess who wears a yellow veil, and whose feet are of silver. She is like a princess who has little white doves for feet. One might fancy she was dancing.

THE PAGE OF HERODIAS

She is like a woman who is dead. She moves very slowly.

[Noise in the banquetting-hall.]

SALOMÉ

FIRST SOLDIER

What an uproar! Who are those wild beasts howling?

SECOND SOLDIER

The Jews. They are always like that. They are disputing about their religion.

FIRST SOLDIER

Why do they dispute about their religion?

SECOND SOLDIER

I cannot tell. They are always doing it. The Pharisees, for instance, say that there are angels, and the Sadducees declare that angels do not exist.

FIRST SOLDIER

I think it is ridiculous to dispute about such things.

THE YOUNG SYRIAN

How beautiful is the Princess Salomé to-night!

THE PAGE OF HERODIAS

You are always looking at her. You look at her too much. It is dangerous to look at people in such fashion. Something terrible may happen.

THE YOUNG SYRIAN

She is very beautiful to-night.

FIRST SOLDIER

The Tetrarch has a sombre aspect.

SALOMÉ

SECOND SOLDIER

Yes; he has a sombre aspect.

FIRST SOLDIER

He is looking at something.

SECOND SOLDIER

He is looking at some one.

FIRST SOLDIER

At whom is he looking?

SECOND SOLDIER

I cannot tell.

THE YOUNG SYRIAN

How pale the Princess is! Never have I seen her so pale. She is like the shadow of a white rose in a mirror of silver.

THE PAGE OF HERODIAS

You must not look at her. You look too much at her.

FIRST SOLDIER

Herodias has filled the cup of the Tetrarch.

THE CAPPADOCIAN

Is that the Queen Herodias, she who wears a black mitre sewed with pearls, and whose hair is powdered with blue dust?