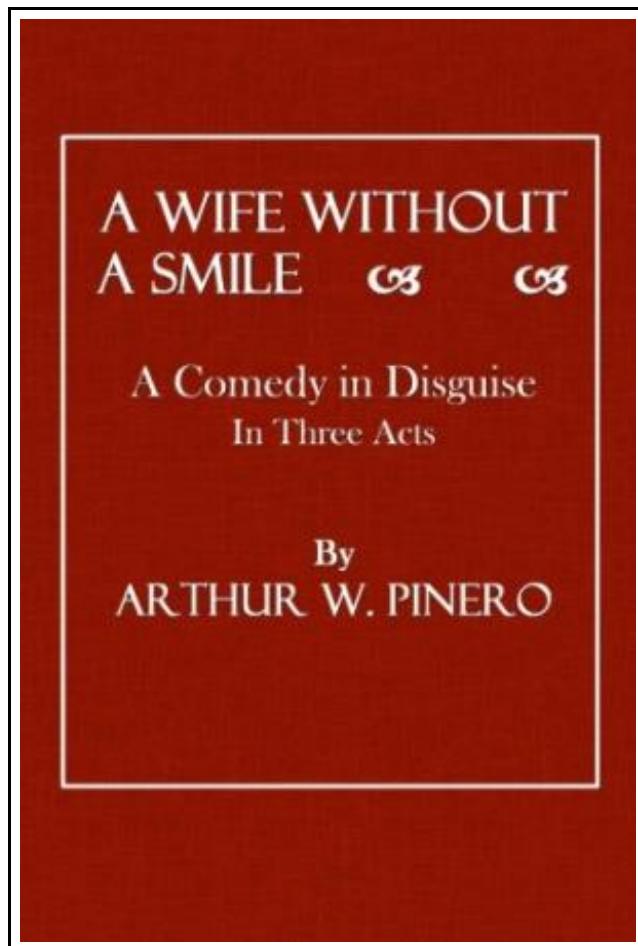


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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. And the accusations flew over Pinero production: . Severely criticized at the time of its production (Oct., 1904) on account of some ill-advised stage effects. . Dubbed a comedy in disguise but in reality an unpleasant problem treated with unbecoming levity. . A farce which is not comic. . When not unpleasant, degenerates into buffoonery. * * * * * But, from the New York Sun: The evening was spent in hilarious laughter, some of which was not together unconnected with a risque doll. Whatever else may be thought of Mr. Pinero's comedy in disguise, it has least the distinction of making a doll, suspended by the neck, the center of dramatic interest. In more than one situation it was not an innocent doll by any means. In many ways that doll is the index of much of the fun of the piece. Semour Rippingill seeks to make his young wife smile by ordering a number of toys from London. He has also, bored a hole through the ceiling of a boathouse, and through that hole a string is passed and fastened to a couch in the room above, used by his guest, Haynes Webbmarsh, a literary man and his wife. When Webbmarsh is supposed to be writing a review, it is evident that he is sitting with his wife on the couch by the gyrations of the doll attached to the string. Later on in the play it serves as an index that Vivian Trood, a former admirer of Mrs. Rippingill, is sitting on a sofa with her. It is a rather gratuitous piece of business and certainly not in good taste, but it made the audience hold its sides...

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