

An impressionistic painting of an outdoor courtyard scene. The scene is dominated by a large, leafy tree on the left and right sides, with its branches and leaves casting shadows over the courtyard. In the center, a group of people, including women and children, are gathered around a low, light-colored stone or concrete wall. The ground is a mix of light and dark tones, suggesting a mix of sun and shadow. The overall style is characterized by visible brushstrokes and a focus on light and color rather than fine detail.

Global Grey Ebooks

IN THE OUTER COURT

ANNIE BESANT

IN THE OUTER COURT

ANNIE BESANT



In the Outer Court by Annie Besant.

First published in 1895.

This ebook edition was created and published by Global Grey on the 5th October 2022.

The artwork used for the cover is '*Washerwomen*'
painted by Antonio Muñoz Degrain.

This book can be found on the site here:

globalgreyebooks.com/in-the-outer-court-ebook.html

©Global Grey 2022

globalgreyebooks.com

Contents

Lecture I. Purification

Lecture II. Thought Control

Lecture III. The Building of Character

Lecture IV. Spiritual Alchemy

Lecture V. On the Threshold

passed across the threshold, is there aught that earth could give of joy or promise, that would make them even glance backwards at the world they have left behind? For this Path which stretches onward before us is a Path of which the pains are better than earth's joys, and the sufferings more glorious than earth's fruitions. If you could press within the span of a human life every joy that the lower earth could give; if you could crowd it with pleasure, and with the giving of the pleasure could give also the power to enjoy without ceasing; if into that span of human life you could bring all that men know of the joys of the senses, nay, even what they know of the joys of the intellect; if you could make it with no touch of pain or of weariness; if you could make it an ideal life so far as earth can make ideal; then beside the steps on the Path - no matter what those steps may seem from the outer world - that life of earth's joys would be sordid and dull in its colouring, and its harmonies would be discords beside the harmonies that lie beyond. For on this Path each step that is taken is a step that is taken for ever; each pain that is suffered on it is a pain which, if it is felt, is welcome because of the lesson that it gives. And in treading this Path it grows brighter as ignorance lessens, it grows more peaceful as weakness vanishes, it grows serener as the vibrations of earth have less power to jar and to disturb. What it is in its ending, Those only can tell who have ended; what it is at its goal, Those only may know who stand there. But even those who are treading its earlier stages know that its sorrow is joy as compared with the joy of earth, and the very smallest of its flowers is worth every jewel that earth could give. One gleam of the Light which shines always upon it and that grows ever brighter as the disciple treads onwards, one gleam of that makes all earth's sunshine but as darkness; they who tread it know the peace that passeth understanding, the joy that earthly sorrow can never take away, the rest that is on the rock that no earthquake may shiver, the place within the Temple where for ever there is bliss.

THE END

I'm Julie, the woman who runs [Global Grey](#) - the website where this ebook was published. These are my own formatted editions, and I hope you enjoyed reading this particular one.

If you have this book because you bought it as part of a collection – thank you so much for your support.

If you downloaded it for free – please consider (if you haven't already) making a small [donation](#) to help keep the site running.

If you bought this from Amazon or anywhere else, you have been ripped off by someone taking free ebooks from my site and selling them as their own. You should definitely get a refund :/

Thanks for reading this and I hope you visit the site again - new books are added regularly so you'll always find something of interest :)