



The Lamplighter

by Maria Susanna Cummins (1827-1866)

Gertrude begins life as an abused child in the care of Nan Grant, a cold and cruel woman. The only person who is kind to her is the lamplighter, Truman Flint. When Nan, in one of her tantrums, throws Gertrude out of the house, Flint takes her into his care. A few unforgettable people teach Gertrude everything that a young lady needs to know. Almost everybody loves and admires Gertrude, but the one she loves best is Willie Sullivan. Will this love stay strong even after six years of separation? And will Gertrude, so admired and loved as she is, be happy – for once in her life - for herself and not for others?



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Engraving from a contemporary broadside advertising the book

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