

WHY I WROTE

THE HIGH PLACE

By

James Branch Cabell

“THE High Place” was written to supply in my Biography of Manuel's life, the link uniting the Line of Love with Gallantry. I therein endeavored, as a needed part of the complete Biography, to illustrate the alternative to Jurgen's choice in the delicate matter of lifting or of leaving untouched the barriers between the material and the ideal. This has been, perhaps naturally, interpreted as an announcing of the fact that few wives wear well. I, married, question this construing with great emphasis and discretion. And I must in passing, likewise modestly disclaim all credit, over-generously accorded me by the illiterate, for endowing this book's milieu and social customs with my private funds of perversity; for that these constituents, also, are plagiarized anybody can discover who cares to dip into the wildest of the Regency memoirs,—say, of the Duc de Richelieu or even of Saint Simon.