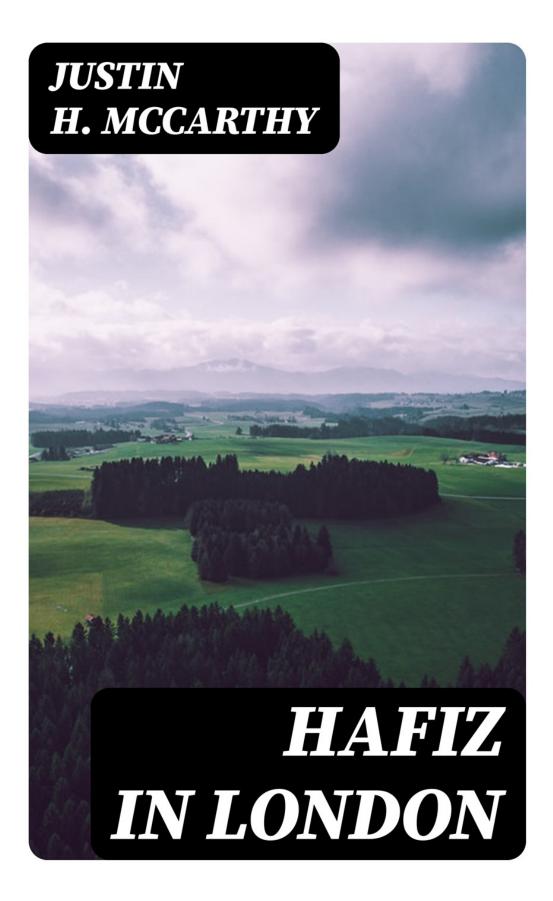
## JUSTIN H. MCCARTHY

# HAFIZ IN LONDON



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### **Hafiz in London**

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For not alone by Rukni's flow The ruddy Persian roses grow.

Not only 'neath the cypress groves, With soul on fire the singer roves, And tells the laughing stars his loves.

Here in this city—where I brood Beside the river's darkling flood, And feed the fever in my blood

With Eastern fancies quaintly traced On yellow parchment, half effaced In verses subtly interlaced—

Men eat and drink, men love and die, Beneath this leaden London sky, As eastward where the hoopoos fly,

And through the tranquil evening air A muezzin from the turret stair Summons all faithful souls to prayer.

And we who drink the Saki's wine Believe its juice no less divine Than filled, Hafiz, that cup of thine.

Master and most benign of shades, Before thy gracious phantom fades To Mosellay's enchanted glades,

Breathe on my lips, and o'er my brain Some comfort for thy child, whose pain Strives as you strove, but strives in vain.

When sundown sets the world on fire, The music of the Master's lyre