m'as jamais vue. Si tu m'avais vue, tu m'aurais aimee. Moi, je t'ai vu,

Iokanaan, et je t'ai aime. Oh! comme je t'ai aime. Je t'aime encore,

Iokanaan. Je n'aime que toi . . . J'ai soif de ta beaute. J'ai faim de

ton corps. Et ni le vin, ni les fruits ne peuvent apaiser mon desir. Que

ferai-je, Iokanaan, maintenant? Ni les fleuves ni les grandes eaux, ne

pourraient eteindre ma passion. J'etais une Princesse, tu m'as

dedaignee. J'etais une vierge, tu m'as defloree. J'etais chaste, tu as

rempli mes veines de feu . . . Ah! Ah! pourquoi ne m'as-tu pas regardee,

Iokanaan? Si tu m'avais regardee tu m'aurais aimee. Je sais bien que tu

m'aurais aimee, et le mystere de l'amour est plus grand que le mystere de

la mort. Il ne faut regarder que l'amour.--Salome.

THE YOUNG KING

All rare and costly materials had certainly a great fascination for him,

and in his eagerness to procure them he had sent away many merchants,

some to traffic for amber with the rough fisher-folk of the north seas,

some to Egypt to look for that curious green turquoise which is found

only in the tombs of kings, and is said to possess magical properties,

some to Persia for silken carpets and painted pottery, and others to

India to buy gauze and stained ivory, moonstones and bracelets of jade,

sandal-wood and blue enamel and shawls of fine wool.

But what had occupied him most was the robe he was to wear at his
coronation, the robe of tissued gold, and the ruby-studded crown, and the
sceptre with its rows and rings of pearls. Indeed, it was of this that
he was thinking to-night, as he lay back on his luxurious couch, watching
the great pinewood log that was burning itself out on the open hearth.
The designs, which were from the hands of the most famous artists of the
time, had been submitted to him many months before, and he had given
orders that the artificers were to toil night and day to carry them out,
and that the whole world was to be searched for jewels that would be
worthy of their work. He saw himself in fancy standing at the high altar
of the cathedral in the fair raiment of a King, and a smile played and
lingered about his boyish lips, and lit up with a bright lustre his dark
woodland eyes.

After some time he rose from his seat, and leaning against the carved
penthouse of the chimney, looked round at the dimly-lit room. The walls
were hung with rich tapestries representing the Triumph of Beauty. A
large press, inlaid with agate and lapis-lazuli, filled one corner, and
facing the window stood a curiously wrought cabinet with lacquer panels
of powdered and mosaiced gold, on which were placed some delicate goblets
of Venetian glass, and a cup of dark-veined onyx. Pale poppies were
broidered on the silk coverlet of the bed, as though they had fallen from
the tired hands of sleep, and tall reeds of fluted ivory bare up the
velvet canopy, from which great tufts of ostrich plumes sprang, like
white foam, to the pallid silver of the fretted ceiling. A laughing

Narcissus in green bronze held a polished mirror above its head. On the table stood a flat bowl of amethyst.

Outside he could see the huge dome of the cathedral, looming like a bubble over the shadowy houses, and the weary sentinels pacing up and down on the misty terrace by the river. Far away, in an orchard, a nightingale was singing. A faint perfume of jasmine came through the open window. He brushed his brown curls back from his forehead, and taking up a lute, let his fingers stray across the cords. His heavy eyelids drooped, and a strange languor came over him. Never before had he felt so keenly, or with such exquisite joy, the magic and the mystery of beautiful things.

When midnight sounded from the clock-tower he touched a bell, and his pages entered and disrobed him with much ceremony, pouring rose-water over his hands, and strewing flowers on his pillow. A few moments after that they had left the room, he fell asleep.--The Young King.

A CORONATION

And when the Bishop had heard them he knit his brows, and said, 'My son, I am an old man, and in the winter of my days, and I know that many evil