

## CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	vii
Foreword	xiii
May 1895	1
Wonder and remorse	3
Tea and beauties	11
A little in love	21
Nothing but my genius	28
Freedom from sordid care	36
The marriage cure	44
Against nature	53
An ideal wife	60
Playing with fire	69
Mad and coloured loves	76
Poets and lovers	85
Æolian harps	92
Spiritualised sodomy	101
Shadow and song	109
John and Dorian	118
Scarlet threads	127
Outlawed noblemen	135
Apples of Sodom	147
Wild and terrible music	157
Strange green flowers	169
Hyacinth and Narcissus	180
Gay, gilt and gracious	189
Prophets and priests	197
For love or money	206
Feasting with panthers	216
The madness of kisses	226
Brazen candour	238
A pugilist of unsound mind	246
A schoolboy with wonderful eyes	257
On a gilded barge	269
The Scarlet Marquis	278
The boys on the beach	290
The arsenic flower	300

*The Secret Life of Oscar Wilde*

Love's sacrifice	313
Passionate fauns	323
Hideous words	331
Raking Piccadilly	341
Vexed and persecuted lovers	350
Fighting with panthers	358
So very ugly	366
Kill the bugger!	374
Oscar at bay	380
The love that dares to speak its name	389
A foul and dark latrine	398
Bitter waters	410
From the depths	420
Comfort and despair	429
Two outcast men	440
A joy-song	450
November 1900	463
Permissions and picture credits	466
Notes	467
Index	527