



Naked

By Luigi Pirandello

Guernica Editions, Canada. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Naked, Luigi Pirandello, Typically provocative, at once comic and tragic, Pirandello's "Naked" ("Vestire gli ignudi") uncovers the machinery of guilt, deceit, and betrayal underlying the motives of five people. The heroine is a young governess who has been reduced to despair by a series of misfortunes. Dismissed from service when the baby in her care fell from a terrace to its death; abandoned by her prospective husband and penniless; she turns to prostitution but fails at this too and poisons herself. She nevertheless does not die - and the action turns farcical, resembling a contemporary media event. She invents a romantic tale about her history which appears in a newspaper and generates more than casual interest in four men: the newspaper reporter; a best-selling writer who rescues her; her faithless lover; and her former employer; all of whom pursue her, demanding she account for her lies. As she feels hounded beyond endurance, her situation grows increasingly dark. The unexpected ending shocks the audience into new awareness about the consequences of fantasy and illusion in our daily lives.

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