

FOGGERTY'S FAIRY

W.S. GILBERT

WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY ANDREW CROWTHER,
SECRETARY OF THE W.S. GILBERT SOCIETY

- Contains notes and extra material on Gilbert's life and the play by Andrew Crowther, the author of *Gilbert of Gilbert and Sullivan* and secretary of the W.S. Gilbert Society.
- The only mass-market edition available, priced to appeal to both students and lovers of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic works.
- One of Gilbert's best and most inventive plays, based on his short story 'The Story of a Twelfth Cake', which plays with the notion of the Butterfly Effect.

'Take care. The consequences of an act are often much more numerous and important than people have any idea of.'

Today W.S. Gilbert is best known for the comic operas he produced in collaboration with Arthur Sullivan, a creative partnership that diverged over the supernatural. Unlike Sullivan, Gilbert was a great fan of fairy tales, and *Foggerty's Fairy*, one of his most unjustly neglected plays, is a brilliant farcical comedy that hinges on the wish-granting of a fairy.

Loosely based on his short story 'The Story of a Twelfth Cake', *Foggerty's Fairy* considers the dangers of playing with the past. Trying to shore up his relationship, a man enlists a fairy's help to make a few tweaks in his past – he soon realises, however, these small changes have made great waves through time, and his present becomes unbearable.

'The wildest absurdity ever perpetrated.'

THE ERA

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

William Schwenck Gilbert (1836–1911) was a dramatist, poet, author, illustrator and librettist. Although he was a prolific writer, producing around 75 plays and dramatic works, he is best known today for the comic operas he produced in collaboration with Arthur Sullivan, including *HMS Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and *The Mikado*, which continue to enjoy huge popularity worldwide.

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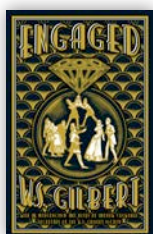
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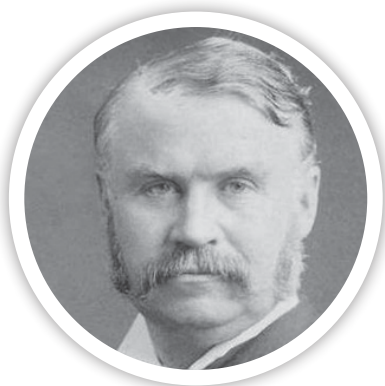
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