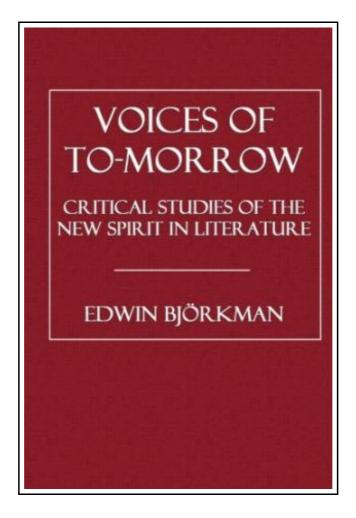
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VOICES OF TO-MORROW: CRITICAL STUDIES OF THE NEW SPIRIT IN LITERATURE (PAPERBACK)



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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.THE sentence that left the deepest impression upon me in a recent perusal of Edwin Bjorkman s Voices of To-morrow was this: Eternal disharmony is the price which must be paid for eternal progress. A whole philosophy of life is contained in that statement. Unrest is surely the word that best characterizes the dominant mood of most of the writers whom Mr. Bjorkman interprets. Strindberg, Bjornson, Maeterlinck, Bergson, Selma Lagerlof, Francis Grierson, Edith Wharton, George Gissing, Joseph Conrad and Robert Herrick-none of these, with the possible exception of Maeterlinck, suggests anything quiet or stationary. At the heart of all tugs the Zeitgeist summoning to fuller and freer expression. They are contradictory-divided not only against one another, but against themselves. And so we find Strindberg, for instance, passing from mood to mood; fiercely misogynist, yet lover of woman; an individualist and. a Socialist. Bergson is a similarly contradictory figure. Yet from writers such as Strindberg and Bergson have come great inspiration for us all. We feel in them and in their kind a passionate idealism, a passionate sincerity, and an impulse that puts truth ahead of all else. I feel this same impulse in Edwin Bjorkman and honor him for it. There is one quality, however, that I think all the writers he describes have in common. They are all trying to extend the boundaries of life and thought. They all believe in freedom. They probably recognize that it will be a richly varied and not a uniform freedom. They have given up the idea of enclosing existence under dogmas. They are willing to let life play free, even though liberty some-times leads to disorder. It is this...

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