



## The Eye of Istar: A Romance of the Land of No Return

By William Le Queux

Createspace, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Thrice hath the Fast of Ramadan come and gone since the Granter of Requests last allowed my eyes to behold the well-remembered landscape, scarcely visible in the pale light of dawn. Hills, covered with tall feathery palms, rose abruptly from the barren, sun-scorched plain, and, at their foot, stood the dazzlingly-white city of Omdurman, the impregnable and mysterious headquarters of Mahdiism, while beyond, like a silver ribbon winding through the marshes, the Nile glided, half veiled by its thin white cloud of morning vapours. Within the walled and strongly-guarded city was a scene, strange and fantastic. The air, heavy with war rumours, was rent by the deafening strokes of enormous brazen tam-tams, mingling with the loud shouts of dark-faced Jalins, half-naked negro fanatics of the Kunjara and the Dinka, armed cap a pie, ready for battle at a moment's notice. The excitement, which had increased daily for many months, had risen to fever heat. Throughout the short, hot night, the great nahas-those huge brass war drums of the Khalifa Abdullah, Ruler of the Soudan-had been beaten by relays of perspiring negro...



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