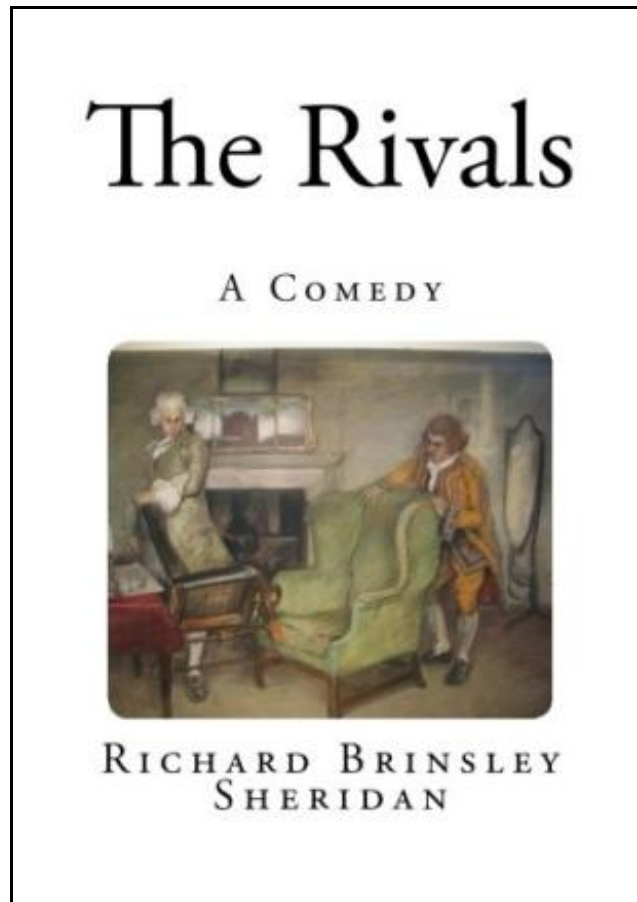


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(Aliya Franecki)

THE RIVALS: A COMEDY (PAPERBACK)



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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Rivals - A Comedy by Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Complete Edition. The Rivals is a comedy of manners play by Richard Brinsley Sheridan in five acts. It was first performed at Covent Garden Theatre on 17 January 1775. The Rivals was Sheridan s first play. At the time, he was a young newlywed living in Bath. At Sheridan s insistence, upon marriage his wife Eliza (born Elizabeth Linley) had given up her career as a singer. This was proper for the wife of a gentleman, but it was difficult because Eliza had earned a substantial income as a performer. Instead, the Sheridans lived beyond their means as they entertained the gentry and nobility with Eliza s singing (in private parties) and Richard s wit. Finally, in need of funds, Richard turned to the only craft that could gain him the remuneration he desired in a short time: he began writing a play. He had over the years written and published essays and poems, and among his papers were numerous unfinished plays, essays and political tracts, but never had he undertaken such an ambitious project as this. In a short time, however, he completed The Rivals. The play is set in Bath in the 18th century, a town that was legendary for conspicuous consumption and fashion at the time. Wealthy, fashionable people went there to take the waters, which were believed to have healing properties. Bath was much less exclusive than London, and hence it provides an ideal setting for the characters. The plot centres on the two young lovers, Lydia and Jack. Lydia, who reads a lot of popular novels of the time, wants a purely romantic love...



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