

nobly through the world; or as a wonderful. When it is violently, grossly, and cruelly used, it produces a good effect by creating, or at any rate bringing out, the spirit of ASUPERFliUOUSNOTEOF EXPLANATION OSCARWIIjDE'Swritingsrequire, I haveoftenobservedelsewhere, no 'DeProfundis' and 'TheBalladofReadingGaol.' thetwomore persRenaissance drew Christ as a little boy with another boy in palace a or a playing or lying back in his mother's garden, arms, smiling at her, or at a flower, or at bright a. figure rising in a sort of ecstasy from death. Now and then, in the course of the century, a great man of science, like Darwin; a great poet, like Keats; a fine critical spirit, like M. Renan; a supreme artist, like Flaubert, has been able to isolate himself, to keep himself out of reach of the clamorous claims of others, to stand 'under the shelter of the wall,' as Plato puts it, and so to realise the perfection of "All authority is quite degrading. It degrades those who exercise it, and degrades those over whom it is exercised. to life bird; or as a noble, stately figure moving.