

**INCLUDING
YOU AND ME**

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Including You and Me by Strickland Gillilan

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STRICKLAND GILLILAN

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BY
STRICKLAND GILLILAN
Author of
"Including Finnigin"

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DEDICATED TO
THE SAME LADY MENTIONED IN MY OTHER BOOK
WITH THE SAME SENTIMENTS

WOR 19 FEB 36

*Now I haven't just tried to be "funny,"
And I haven't just tried to be "smart."
Nor yet is it only for money —
'Tis largely a matter of heart!
Long after the laughter has ended,
Years after the income is spent,
May the laughs and the loves I have blended
Still deepen some human's content.*

PREFACE

The more than kindly reception accorded my other collection of verses ("Including Finnigin") so encouraged my publishers that they dared to produce another volume; this time excluding the piece that had given my stuff its first vogue, but including a lot of mighty intimate discussions of things pertaining to those two delightful folks—you and me.

(The foregoing is a longer sentence than the one beginning the preface to my previous book, but you know the second offense always brings a longer sentence.)

One time there was a prophet (know your Bible?) who was sharply scolded for presuming to call "common" or "unclean" a lot of familiar, every-day things. For myself I have always held that the mere fact that a thing was primitively human, and well-known by all of us, was not just for that necessarily to be treated with scorn or neglect. That very commonness (maybe I'd better say universality) made the thing, in my stubborn way of think-

ing, all the finer—made it a sort of mental and emotional solder to weld us somewhat cantankerous humans into a warm-hearted, sympathetic brotherhood—the pass-word or distress-sign of a world-wide, race-long “lodge.”

So that is the sort of thing I have handled in the verses included in this new volume; and it was with that idea imbedded in my mind and heart that I wrote them in the first place.

I hope you'll like them; that they may warm the “cockles of your heart” and make you feel closer to a lot of folks you had thought inferior to you. And I also humanly hope I've appealed to your vanity enough, by telling you things you already knew, to make you clasp the little volume more closely and say:

“My, that fellow's smart! Why, he knows the very same things I know!”

STRICKLAND GILLILAN.