

LILY

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Lily by Hugh Wiley

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HUGH WILEY

LILY

BOOKS BY HUGH WILEY

JADE, and Other Stories

LADY LUCK

THE WILDCAT

LILY

LILY

By HUGH WILEY



NEW YORK
ALFRED · A · KNOPF

1922

M. 100

Bills v. Tanner June 14, 1946

TO
GEORGE HORACE LORIMER

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LILY

1870

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CHAPTER I

"Lookin' ahead you kaint depend
On whut's waitin',—
Mebbe Heaven lays roun' de bend,
Mebbe Hell an' Satan."

TO the Wildcat in San Francisco the world and all things therein were middlin' good. The scheme of life was benevolent. Old Man Trouble appeared on the scene often enough to supply a black background for the noble radiance of Lady Luck's smile, but with two days balanced on the knife-edge of midnight the Wildcat figured that the griefs of yesterday would be offset by the joys of to-morrow.

At the eleventh hour Lady Luck had smiled and then her smile had turned to laughter and part of the record of her favor lay in crumpled banknotes in the inside pocket of the Wildcat's yaller striped vest. He had no coat, for the coat had been a gaudy affair adorned with the insignia of the Temple of Luck, and he had