

# **THE ART OF LIVING IN WARTIME**

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The art of living in wartime by Marjorie Barstow Greenbie

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**MARJORIE BARSTOW GREENBIE**

**THE ART OF LIVING  
IN WARTIME**



THE ART  
*of*  
LIVING IN WARTIME

by

*Marjorie Barstow Greenbie*

Author of "The Arts of Leisure"

*New York* WHITTLESEY HOUSE *London*  
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THE ART OF LIVING IN WARTIME

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## Once We Had Leisure

Once we had leisure, handsome, high, and wide,  
And every day was long enough for two.  
We needed social wizards to decide  
What folks so very rich in time should do  
To fill with living all the shining sweep  
Of empty hours betwixt work and sleep.

But now Death holds a mortgage on our time.  
Our energies of hand and head are set  
To squeeze each moment like a hard-earned dime  
Hoarded to pay the interest on the debt  
Which threatens hourly to obliterate  
Our equity in all we had of late.

Yet must we keep some tokens of the grace  
Of living through these sacrificial hours.  
So shall we meet Death with a gallant face.  
So shall we save the seed of vanished flowers  
To plant beneath the blue of sunnier skies  
The gardens of a safer Paradise.

M. B. G.





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