

**PHILOSOPHY 4: A
STORY OF HARVARD
UNIVERSITY**

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Philosophy 4: A Story of Harvard University by Owen Wister

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OWEN WISTER

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UNIVERSITY**



Owen Wister .

Philosophy 4

A Story of Harvard University

BY

OWEN WISTER

AUTHOR OF "THE VIRGINIAN," ETC.



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ILLUSTRATIONS

Portrait of Owen Wister . . . *Frontispiece*

FACING PAGE

“‘Skip Plato,’ interrupted one of the
Boys” 11

“‘Come as near spillin’ as you boys
wanted, I guess’” 65



PHILOSOPHY 4

A STORY OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY



I

TWO frowning boys sat in their tennis flannels beneath the glare of lamp and gas. Their leather belts were loosened, their soft pink shirts unbuttoned at the collar. They were listening with gloomy voracity to the instruction of a third. They sat at a table bared of its customary sporting ornaments, and from time to time they questioned, sucked their pencils, and scrawled vigorous, laconic notes. Their necks and faces shone with the bloom of out-of-doors. Studious concentration was evidently a painful novelty to

PHILOSOPHY 4

their features. Drops of perspiration came one by one from their matted hair, and their hands dampened the paper upon which they wrote. The windows stood open wide to the May darkness, but nothing came in save heat and insects; for spring, being behind time, was making up with a sultry burst at the end, as a delayed train makes the last few miles high above schedule speed. Thus it had been since eight o'clock. Eleven was daintily striking now. Its diminutive sonority might have belonged to some church-bell far distant across the Cambridge silence; but it was on a shelf in the room, — a timepiece of Gallic design, representing Mephistopheles, who caressed the world in his lap. And as the little strokes boomed, eight — nine — ten — eleven, the voice of the instructor steadily continued thus: —

“By starting from the Absolute Intelligence, the chief cravings of the reason, after unity and spirituality, receive due satisfaction. Something transcending