

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

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The spirit of Christmas by Henry Van Dyke

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HENRY VAN DYKE

**THE SPIRIT
OF CHRISTMAS**



**THE
SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS**

**BY
HENRY VAN DYKE**

**NEW YORK
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
1905**

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A DREAM-STORY

THE CHRISTMAS ANGEL

It was the hour of rest in the Country Beyond the Stars. All the silver bells that swing with the turning of the great ring of light which lies around that land were softly chiming; and the sound of their commotion went down like dew upon the golden ways of the city, and the long alleys of blossoming trees, and the meadows of asphodel, and the curving shores of the River of Life.

At the hearing of that chime, all the angels who had been working turned to play, and all who had been playing gave themselves joyfully to work. Those who had been singing, and