

**THE ROAD TOGETHER; A
CONTEMPORANEOUS
DRAMA IN FOUR ACTS**

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The road together; a contemporaneous drama in four acts by George Middleton

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GEORGE MIDDLETON

**THE ROAD TOGETHER; A
CONTEMPORANEOUS
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THE ROAD TOGETHER

*A CONTEMPORANEOUS DRAMA
IN FOUR ACTS*

BY
GEORGE MIDDLETON



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1916

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GEORGE MIDDLETON

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To

SCUDDER AND LUCILE

Who have just started on the road together

343350

PREFACE

THE spiritual level which any marriage achieves depends largely upon the quality of those who make it. Whatever its social import, of which few are deliberately conscious, it is essentially an affair of individuals. As they are and as they react to each other, so will the marriage be. Since it is only in marriage that society offers free and complete expression between them, it is there that the individual man and woman are most tested, most realized, and most offended.

If one considers the strangeness of sex—with its vagrancy and variation—and the tremulous psychic inheritances which uncontrollably veer our acts and emotions, one can only have deep charity when marriage ends in disillusion, and infinite wonder when it reaches rich fulfilment. Yet marriage endures somehow between these two extremes. Its bonds are obvious when based upon religious conviction, the responsibilities of children, the fear of admitting failure, and the pressure of convention. But the subtle and powerful bond, I believe, is that which is made by the daily habit of living together.

It is, in some way, to picture the strength of this latter bond when opposed to the vagrant claim of sex, that this present study of a group of individuals is dedicated. The resolution they attain is neither better nor worse than lies within their individual capacities

and limitations. I am not concerned with any criticism of what that spiritual level may be. My object is to interpret their characters and the manner in which they finally realize themselves through the revelation of their self-deceptions under the contingencies of circumstance.

G. M.

June 1, 1916.