

**HAPPINESS**

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Happiness by Hugh Black

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**HUGH BLACK**

# **HAPPINESS**



# Happiness

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**BY  
HUGH BLACK**

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*Gift of Mrs. Jessica Hazard 12-21-42*

TO

SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON NICOLL

MY DEAR NICOLL:

I sometimes feel as if I owed you a grudge that you made me write books, but it has been a comfort that therefore you have shared the responsibility. You are even responsible for the kind of book; for I remember that years ago in your study in London, when I outlined to you an ambitious and learned piece of work I meant to do, you said that plenty of men were writing serious books for the few and hardly any writing for the many. You begged me to give up my scheme. I do not know if it is a justification, but each volume of the Friendship Series in which this book appears has received a welcome from a larger public than even you anticipated.

As you know, it is a temptation to a professor to write a book of learned appearance, with scholastic

words and large foot-notes. I have tried to resist that temptation, and in this case it has meant writing a book on Happiness without once using words like Hedonism and Utilitarianism. As Traddles says in *David Copperfield*, it has been a "pull".

I have longed to write a book worthy to dedicate to you, and in despair I choose this one. At any rate I feel that it is appropriate to associate your name with this subject, as no one has written more wisely than you on the art of living, which is the art of happiness. Also, one of the elements of happiness to me is that, though separated farther than in the old days, you permit me to call myself your friend.

HUGH BLACK.

NEW YORK CITY

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