

**HITTING THE DARK TRAIL.
STARSHINE THROUGH
THIRTY YEARS OF NIGHT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649605613

Hitting the Dark Trail. Starshine Through Thirty Years of Night by Clarence Hawkes

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

CLARENCE HAWKES

**HITTING THE DARK TRAIL.
STARSHINE THROUGH
THIRTY YEARS OF NIGHT**



The naturalist and his friends

HITTING THE DARK TRAIL

*STARSHINE THROUGH THIRTY
YEARS OF NIGHT*

BY

CLARENCE HAWKES

*Author of Shaggycoat, Black Bruin, The Wilderness Dog,
The Trail to the Woods, The Little Foresters, etc.*

ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHARLES COPELAND
AND FROM PHOTOGRAPHS



NEW YORK
HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY
1915

DEDICATED
TO MY FRIEND
HELEN KELLER

WITH SINCERE REGARD AND KEEN AP-
PRECIATION OF HER BRAVE STRUGGLE
AND WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENTS UPON
THE TRAIL OF DARKNESS AND SILENCE.

374440

A WORD TO THE READER

THIS little volume is preëminently a book of hope, courage, and achievement, although these essentials to happiness were only attained by the author after many discouragements, struggles, and heartaches.

It is the earnest hope of the writer that the reader may not be discouraged by the strenuous character of the first few chapters, but will adopt the author's three P's, Patience, Perseverance and Pluck, and read on to the happy ending.

The courageous man, with a true standard of life's values, is not impoverished by poverty, or greatly enriched by riches, for he recognizes the fact that the only value of circumstances to him, be they good or ill, is their effect upon his own life and character.

To fight on when the battle seems lost, and to finally snatch victory from defeat, is the most sublime thing in human life.

vi A WORD TO THE READER

So it is to make a better optimist and a better fighter of the reader that this book is written. If I can help you to hear songs in the silences, see sunshine in the clouds, turn seeming failure to success, and find good in all things, this book will not have been written in vain.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
A WORD TO THE READER	v
INTRODUCTION. By <i>Dallas Lore Sharp</i>	xi
INTRODUCTORY	3
CHAPTER	
I. BLESSED DAYLIGHT	9
II. CLOUD SHADOWS	21
III. THE COMING OF NIGHT	34
IV. SEARCHING FOR LIGHT	53
V. THE DAWN OF HOPE	71
VI. THE LITERARY STRUGGLE	93
VII. WRITING NATURE BOOKS WITHOUT EYES	114
VIII. PASTURES AND RECREATIONS	131
IX. THE PSYCHOLOGY OF BLINDNESS	148
X. ON THE DARK TRAIL	161