DOWN LYRIC LANES

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Down Lyric Lanes by Ethel Cotton

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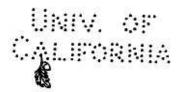
ETHEL COTTON

DOWN LYRIC LANES



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By ETHEL COTTON



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DEDICATION

To you who by opening your heart have allowed me to creep into your understanding, this little volume is lovingly dedicated.

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SUN AND SHADE





I GREET THEE, SPRING

Hail to thee, Springtime of Gladness! Wonderful year-time of promise! Each little bud in its outline Sketching the coming of summer, Soon to burst forth in its beauty, Full and complete in its glory! All of thy delicate colors, Wistful and dainty as fog-wreaths, Hover around and about us. Tenderly brooding above us, Filtering into our senses, Stir the deep wells of our beings: Lift vague and shadowy fancies, Limn them, alluring, before us. Hope is in every tendril, Tiptoeing up to the star-light, Climbing more close to the star-light: Power in every blade-throb, Feeling the pull of the planets: Gladness in every streamlet, Rippling in joy to the river; Spirit of flower-clad beauty, Symbol of gladness, I greet you!