

**A HANDFUL OF STARS:
TEXTS THAT HAVE
MOVED GREAT MINDS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649008841

A handful of stars: texts that have moved great minds by F. W. Boreham

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F. W. BOREHAM

**A HANDFUL OF STARS:
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OTHER BOOKS BY MR. BOREHAM

A BUNCH OF EVERLASTINGS
THE HOME OF THE ECHOES
A REEL OF RAINBOW
THE UTTERMOST STAR
THE SILVER SHADOW
THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HILL
FACES IN THE FIRE
MUSHROOMS ON THE MOOR
THE GOLDEN MILESTONE
MOUNTAINS IN THE MIST
THE LUGGAGE OF LIFE, ETC.

A HANDFUL OF STARS

TEXTS THAT HAVE MOVED GREAT MINDS

BY
F. W. BOREHAM



THE ABINGDON PRESS
NEW YORK CINCINNATI

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Printed in the United States of America

First Edition Printed March, 1922
Reprinted June, 1922

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BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION

IT is not good that a book should be alone; this is a companion volume to A BUNCH OF EVER-LASTINGS. 'O God,' cried Caliban from the abyss,

O God, if you wish for our love,
Fling us a *handful of stars!*

The Height evidently accepted the challenge of the Depth. Heaven hungered for the love of Earth, and so the stars were thrown. I have gathered up a few, and, like children with their beads and berries, have threaded them upon this string. It will be seen that they do not all belong to the same constellation. Most of them shed their luster over the stern realities of life: a few glittered in the firmament of fiction. It matters little. A great romance is a portrait of humanity, painted by a master-hand. When the novelist employs the majestic words of revelation to transfigure the lives of his characters, he does so because, in actual experience, he finds those selfsame words indelibly engraven upon the souls of men. And, after all, *Sydney Carton's Text* is really *Charles Dickens' Text*; *Robinson Crusoe's Text* is *Daniel Defoe's Text*; the text that stands embedded in the pathos of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is the

text that Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe had enthroned within her heart. Moreover, to whatever group these splendid orbs belong, their deathless radiance has been derived, in every case, from the perennial Fountain of all Beauty and Brightness.

FRANK W. BOREHAM,

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