

INDISCRETIONS OF ARCHIE

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Indiscretions of Archie by P. G. Wodehouse

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P. G. WODEHOUSE

**INDISCRETIONS
OF ARCHIE**

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BY P. G. WODEHOUSE

AUTHOR OF

*"The Little Warrior," "A Damsel in Distress,"
"Three Men and a Maid," etc.*



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DEDICATION
TO
B. W. KING-HALL

My dear Buddy,—

We have been friends for eighteen years. A considerable proportion of my books were written under your hospitable roof. And yet I have never dedicated one to you. What will be the verdict of Posterity on this? The fact is, I have become rather superstitious about dedications. No sooner do you label a book with the legend—

TO
MY BEST FRIEND

X

than X cuts you in Piccadilly, or you bring a lawsuit against him. There is a fatality about it. However, I can't imagine anyone quarrelling with you, and I am getting more attractive all the time, so let's take a chance.

Yours ever,

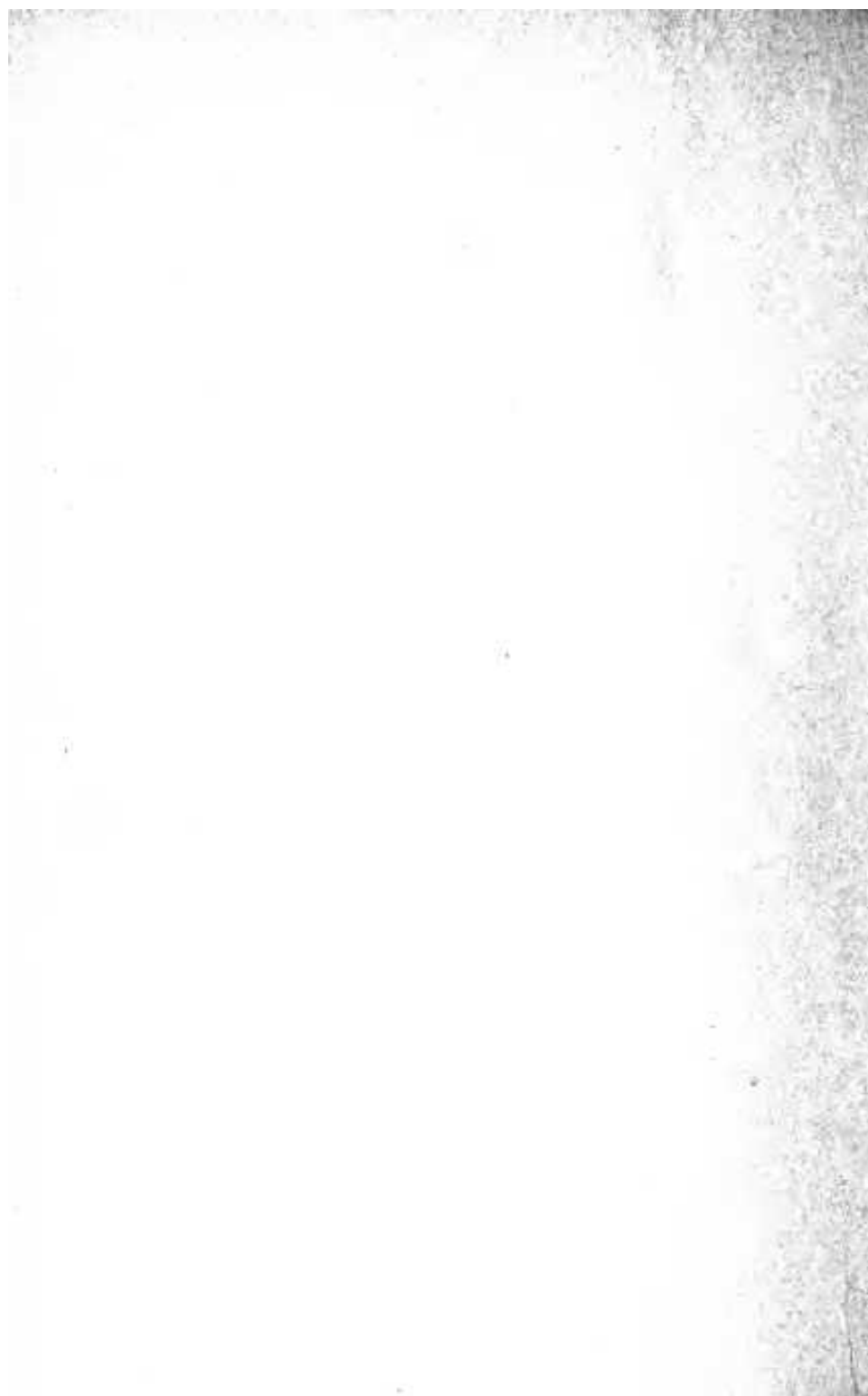
P. G. WODEHOUSE.

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CHAPTER I

DISTRESSING SCENE IN A HOTEL

I SAY, laddie!" said Archie.

"Sir?" replied the desk-clerk alertly. All the employès of the Hotel Cosmopolis were alert. It was one of the things on which Mr. Daniel Brewster, the proprietor, insisted. And as he was always wandering about the lobby of the hotel keeping a personal eye on affairs, it was never safe to relax.

"I want to see the manager."

"Is there anything I could do, sir?"

Archie looked at him doubtfully.

"Well, as a matter of fact, my dear old desk-clerk," he said, "I want to kick up a fearful row, and it hardly seems fair to lug you into it. Why you, I mean to say? The blighter whose head I want on a charger is the bally manager."

At this point a massive, grey-haired man, who had been standing close by, gazing on the lobby with an air of restrained severity, as if daring it to start anything, joined in the conversation.