





SHIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT

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SHIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT

"Ships that pass in the night, and speak each other in passing, Only a signal shewn, and a distant voice in the darkness; So, on the ocean of life we pass and speak one another, Only a look and a voice, then darkness again and a silence."

BEATRICE HARRADEN

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TO MY DEAR FRIENDS, AGNES AND JOHN KENDALL THIS LUTTLE BOOK, WRITTEN MOSTLY IN THEIR HOME IS LOVINGLY DEDICATED.

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SHIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT. PART 1.

CHAPTER I.

A NEW-COMER.

⁶⁴ YES, indeed," remarked one of the guests at the English table, "yes, indeed, we start life thinking that we shall build a great cathedral, a crowning glory to architecture, and we end by contriving a mud hut."

"I am glad you think so well of human nature," said the Disagreeable Man, suddenly looking up from the newspaper which he always read during meal-time. "I should be more inclined to say that we end by being content to dig a hole, and get into it, like the earth men."

A silence followed these words; the English community at that end of the table was struck with astonishment at hearing the Disagreeable

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