
Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam

Khayyam Omar

Title: Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam

Author: Khayyam Omar

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RUBAIYAT OF OMAR KHAYYAM.



RUBAIYAT OF OMAR
KHAYYAM, TRANSLA-
TED BY JUSTIN HUNTLY
McCARTHY, M.P.



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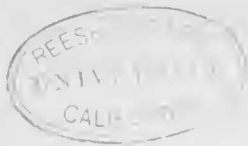
DEDICATION

TO ANDREW LANG

DEAR SPOKE OF THE NORTH, WHO
ALL THE HOURS
THE HAPPY HOURS I LOVE AND MISS
AT LEAST
THESE ECHOES OF OUR SINGING ON THE
EAST
WHERE STILL THE BROWN HILLS SING
THE TULIP FLOWERS,
THE WINE RUNS RED, THE POTTED-ORCHIDS
HAUNTS THE BOWERS,
WHERE STILL THE POET DRINKING OF
LIFE'S FEAST,
SMILES AT THE JEST OF POTTER, PEASANT,
AND PRIEST,
THE ROOM OF THRONES AND FANTASY-
DONJAN TOWERS.

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YOU WHO LOVE OMAR, YOU WHOSE
VERSES REST,
LIKE OMAR'S LONGED-FOR ROSES, ON
HIS TOMB,
FORGIVE THE RASHNESS THAT WOULD
FAIN CONJURE
THE WATCHER OF THE STARS, A WEL-
COME GUEST
INTO YOUR PRESENCE FROM THE CYPRESS
GLOOM,
AND GLORY OF ENCHANTED NAISHAPUR !



INTRODUCTION.

I SHALL NEVER FORGET THE DAY WHEN I FIRST MADE ACQUAINTANCE WITH OMAR KHAYYAM. IT WAS YEARS AGO, "I SHALL NOT SAY HOW MANY, BUT NOT MANY," THAT FITZGERALD'S TRANSLATION WAS LENT TO ME TO READ BY A YOUNG LADY WHO HAS SINCE BEEN FOUND "DEAR TO THE MUSES," AND WHOM DESTINY HAD EVIDENTLY MARKED OUT FOR SYMPATHY WITH PERSIAN SCHOLARSHIP, MISS MARY ROBINSON, THE CHARMING POETESS, WHO IS NOW THE WIFE OF THE DISTINGUISHED ORIENTALIST, MR. DARMESTETTER. SHE HAD HERSELF, IF I REMEMBER RIGHTLY, BEEN INTRODUCED TO OMAR BY THE LATE MR.

L. W. GODWIN, A MAN WHOSE RARE ABILITIES HAVE INEXPLICABLY LEFT LESS MARK UPON THE TIME THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. TO SAY THAT THE RUBAIYAT WERE A REVELATION TO ME AND THAT I ADORED THE REVELATION WOULD BE PUT TO CONVEY A PITIFUL AND MEAGRE SENSE OF MY ENTHUSIASM. I DRANK THE RED WINE OF OMAR FROM THE ENCHANTED CHALICE OF FITZGERALD AND GLORIED, AS JOYOUSLY AS OMAR HIMSELF, IN THE INTOXICATION. THE BOOK WAS NOT MINE TO KEEP, BUT I KNEW IT ALMOST BY HEART BEFORE I PARTED WITH IT; AND I SPEEDILY HAD AN OMAR OF MY OWN FROM THIS OMAR WITH INFINITE PAINS I MADE A SMALL COPY WHICH I CARRIED ABOUT WITH ME, CARRIED WITH ME IN WANDERINGS TO ITALY AND READ AND RE-READ: READ