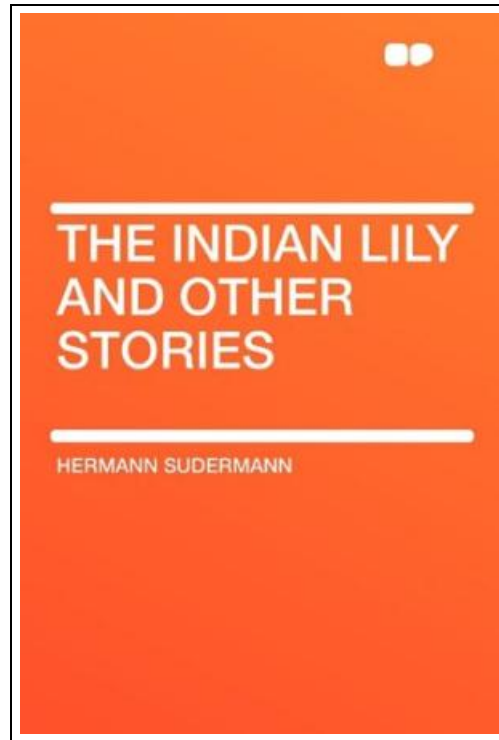


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THE INDIAN LILY AND OTHER STORIES



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HardPress Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 198 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.4in.Excerpt: . . . suffering of the last hours put to scorn, the more could he master a kind of grim humour. He, the shepherd of souls, felt it his duty to venture upon the valley of the shadow to which he had so often led the trembling candidate of death, with the boldness of a hero in battle. This poor, timid soul, who had never been able to endure the angry barking of a dog, played with the terror of death like a bull-necked gladiator. Read me a song of death, but a strengthening one, he would say repeatedly during the day, but also at night, if he could not sleep. He needed it as a child needs its cradle song. Often he was angry when in her confusion and blinded by unshed tears, she chose a wrong one. Like a literary connoisseur who rolls a Horatian ode or a Goethean lyric upon his tongue-even thus he enjoyed these sombre stanzas. There was one: I haste to my eternal home, in which the beyond was likened to a bridal chamber and to a crystal sea of blessednesses. There was another: Greatly rejoice now, O my soul, which would admit no redeeming feature about this earth, and was really a prayer for release. And there was one filled with the purest folly of Christendom: In peace and joy I fare from hence. And this one promised a smiling sleep. But they were all overshadowed by that rejoicing song: Thank God, the hour has come! which, like a cry of victory, points proudly and almost sarcastically to the conquered miseries of the earth. The Will to Live of the poor flesh...



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