



# **The Story of The Other Wise Man : Classic Christmas Children's Book (Annotated)**

*Henry Van Dyke*

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The Story of The Other Wise Man : Classic Christmas Children's Book

## ADDITIONAL CONTENT :

- + The Author Biography
- + Active Table of Contents for an easy navigation within the book

## OVERVIEW:

YOU know the story of the Three Wise Men of the East, and how they traveled from far away to offer their gifts at the manger-cradle in Bethlehem. But have you ever heard the story of the Other Wise Man, who also saw the star in its rising, and set out to follow it, yet did not arrive with his brethren in the presence of the young child Jesus? Of the great desire of this fourth pilgrim, and how it was denied, yet accomplished in the denial; of his many wanderings and the probations of his soul; of the long way of his seeking, and the strange way of his finding, the One whom he sought I would tell the tale as I have heard fragments of it in the Hall of Dreams, in the palace of the Heart of Man.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### INTRODUCTION

I : THE SIGN IN THE SKY

II : BY THE WATERS OF BABYLON

III : FOR THE SAKE OF A LITTLE CHILD

IV : IN THE HIDDEN WAY OF SORROW

V : A PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

BIOGRAPHY of Henry Van Dyke

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR :

Henry Jackson van Dyke (November 10, 1852 – April 10, 1933, aged 80) was an American author, educator, and clergyman.

Henry van Dyke was born on November 11 , 1852 in Germantown, Pennsylvania in the United States. He graduated from Princeton University in 1873 and from Princeton Theological Seminary, 1877 and served as a professor of English literature at Princeton between 1899 and 1923. In 1908-09 Dr. van Dyke was an American lecturer at the University of Paris. By appointment of President Wilson he became Minister to the Netherlands and Luxembourg in 1913. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters and received many other honors. Van Dyke was an "ardent foe of the annexation of the Philippines, [and] told his congregation in 1898, 'If we enter the course of foreign conquest, the day is not far distant when we must spend in annual preparation for wars more than the \$180,000,000 that we now spend every year in the education of our children for peace.'

Henry van Dyke offering prayer at the 1913 Easter Sunrise Services in Riverside, California atop Mount Rubidoux

He chaired the committee that wrote the first Presbyterian printed liturgy, The Book of Common Worship of 1906. Among his popular writings are the two Christmas stories The Other Wise Man (1896) and The First Christmas Tree (1897). Various religious themes of his work are also expressed in his poetry, hymns and the essays collected in Little Rivers (1895) and Fisherman's Luck (1899). He wrote the lyrics to the popular hymn, "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" (1907), sung to the tune of Beethoven's Ode to Joy. He compiled several short stories in The Blue Flower (1902) named after the key symbol of Romanticism introduced first by Novalis. He also contributed a chapter to the collaborative novel, The Whole Family (1908). Among his poems is Katrina's Sundial, the inspiration for the song Time Is by the group It's a Beautiful Day on their eponymous 1969 debut album. Furthermore, the lyrics of a song – entitled Time, sung by Mark Masri – are mostly inspired by the following quote, written by Henry van Dyke: Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love – time is eternity. A biography of Van Dyke, titled Henry Van Dyke: A Biography, was written by his son Tertius van Dyke and published in 1935.

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