# SONGS EN ROUTE

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Songs En Route by Hester Dickinson

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### **HESTER DICKINSON**

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## BY HESTER DICKINSON



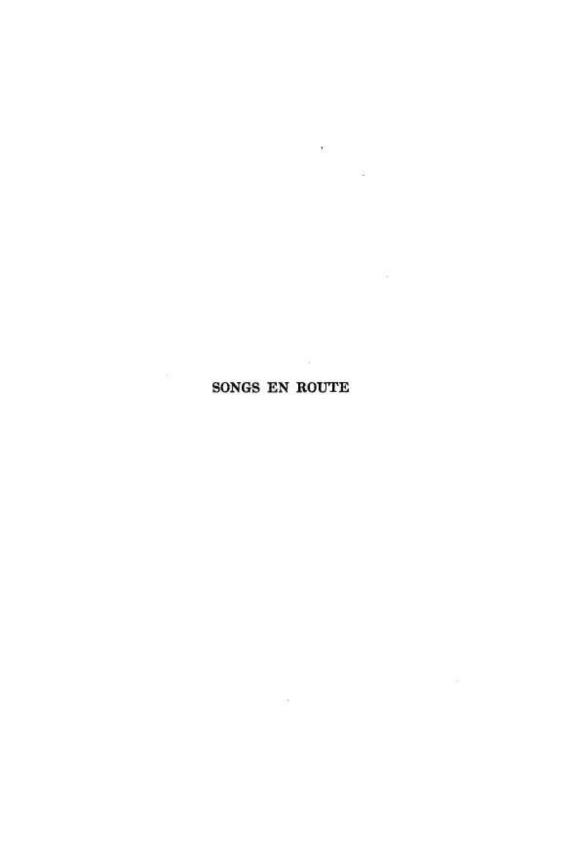
BOSTON
SHERMAN, FRENCH & COMPANY
1911

TO INA COOLBRITH

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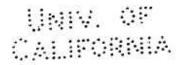
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#### INVOCATION

BREAK, O sunshine, over my face,
Through the mist of this mystical time,
Till I catch your sparkle and strength and
grace

And weave them into a rhyme;

For, under the passionate pulse of my feet,
The rapturous roses grow,
And life is sweeter than all things sweet
That ever the saints may know;
For how can they guess what Paradise means,
Who never its calm heights gained
Through clash of cruelest battle-scenes,
Where the chalice of death was drained?

Break, O sunshine, where smiles belong!
And beat, O beautiful sea,
The happiest time of a happier song,
Than ever of old to me!
And leave your moaning, as I leave mine,
In the dark of desolate years,
Leaping with laughter to life divine,
Forgetful of treasons and tears!
Sing, O billows! and while I dream
In the new-born, summery time,
Let me weave your grandeur and grace and
gleam,
With the threads of a rollicking rhyme.