

Desert Suite
Fivetone Pictures
for the Piano



By-

Homer Grunn

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
MUSIC COMPANY

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LOS ANGELES

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At Sunrise

Not as in other climes the sun arises,
Over these arid plains.
But with a cloudless face the world surprises;
And instant glory reigns
When sudden from the far horizon blazes
His flashing rim,
Saluted by the meadow lark which raises,
A matin hymn.

—William Hooper Howells.

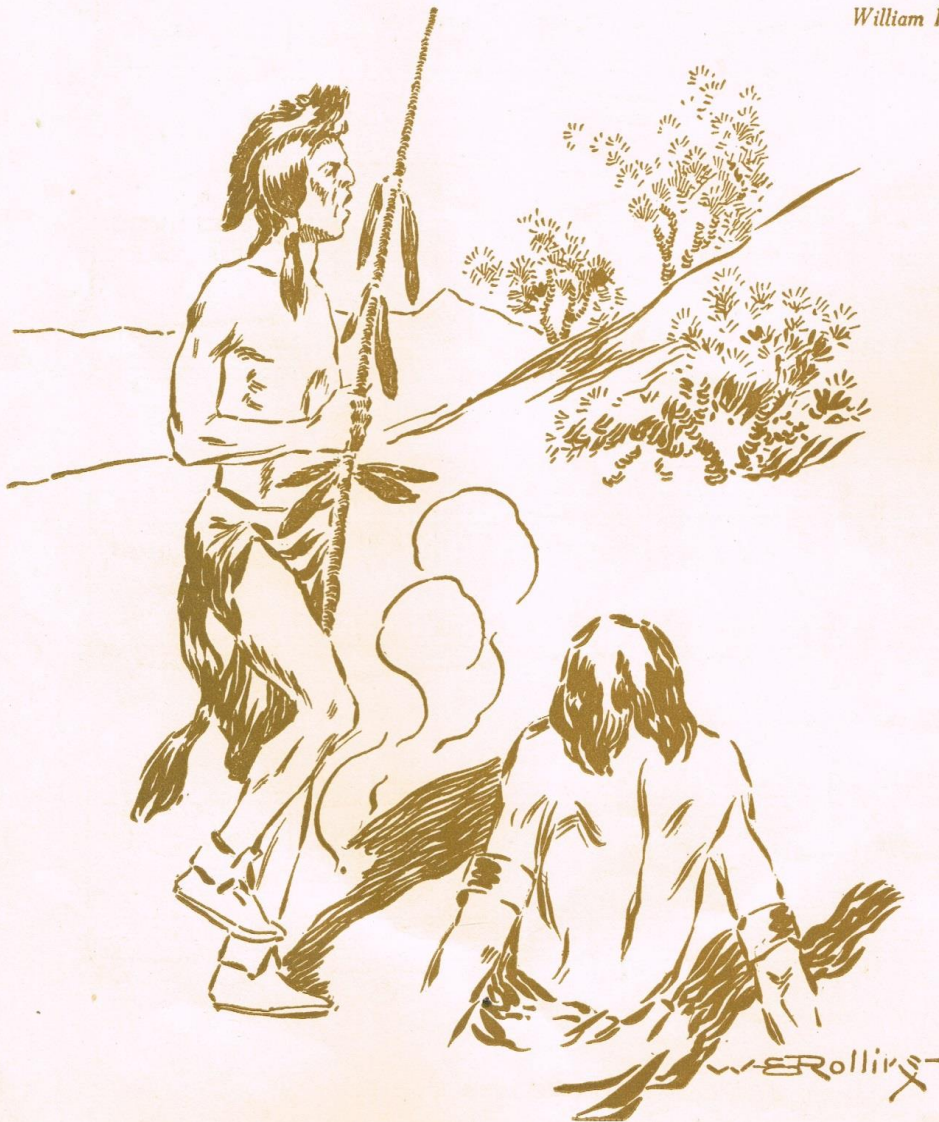


Cholla Dance

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When the drum in swift vibration
Thobs a mystic beat,
And in many a wild gyration
Fly the Hoppi's feet,
When around the cactus swaying
Chiefs and braves unite,
All the Cholla spell obeying,
Far into the night,
Then the Gods propitiated,
Gods of earth and air,
Bring the living rain belated,
Answer to the prayer.

William Hooper Howells.



On the Mesa

A strange consolatory land,
So solemn, yet so kind.
The sibilation of the sand,
Through sifting fingers of the wind.
Makes silence more defined.
And when the veil of evening falls,
With insect nocturnes dry,
And voices wierd and cadent calls,
While stars bedew the sky.
The mesa phantoms, pattering tread
Along the trails of races dead.

—William Hooper Howells.



Mirage

WHEN the sky is like to a brazen bowl,
And the desert throbs in the heat,
And a scorching stillness wrings the soul,
And the hot sand burns the feet—
When the traveler turns in his last despair
To look for a spot of green,
And views through the torrid quivering air,
The world and the sky between—
A mirage of enchantment fair,
A vision of wood and wave;
And his heart leaps up at a sight so rare,
But he little knows 'tis a cruel snare,
The lovely lure to a grave.

—William Hooper Howells.



Oasis

Where the desert downward slants
Many a sun-burned league,
Where the dead and withered plants
Eye and heart fatigue.

Where when lost, the traveler faces
Torment and the doom,
Comes reprieve, a fair oasis,
Far away his vision traces,
And his hopes relume.

Like a verdant tropic isle,
Palm trees beckon bending
And the dancing waters smile
As they leave some dark defile,
Life and music lending.

—William Hooper Howells.

