

# Nearer Than The Stars

*by W.H. Halliburton, Ouachitonian and editor of the literary journal in 1913*

Have you ever sat at twilight with your reveries wrapped in the restful mantle of dusk, watching the eastern skies as one by one the scintillating stars danced out from the winds of infinity onto the stage of night?

Did you turn your face to the west and behold Venus, the diamond goddess of the astral realm, as she glittered goldly and defiantly into the face of the receding sun, whose rays of day sought for a wee bit longer to bedim the light of some timorous Adonis of the heavens?

Later, in this trance of twilight, did you look up through the dome of the night into the gem-studded well of the zenith, sparkling in all its heavenly grandeur?

Finally, the subtle ear of your soul heard the music of the spheres which charms the myriad worlds into system and order, and causes the suns, planets, and comets to keep their rhythmic step in the grand pageant of time.

You were inspired by the spectacle, and you thought of the Divine Operator who from some mystical prominence, was flashing these symbols of His invisible realm onto the blue curtain of space.

Then you wondered why down the stair of the ages there had crept sages and fools who searched by the dim light of human philosophy for a sign of deity. All the while the great average mind of humanity has lifted its face gratefully upward and read the starry manuscript of the skies.

Nearer than the stars are signs of God. We see traces of the Master Builder in the sky-piercing mountains; in the verdant valleys below. He paints the western horizon with gorgeous sunsets and spans the east with the bow of promise. He runs the tiny brooklet over green shoals for music, and tunes the throats of birds. Through this global Garden of Eden He has planted and nurtured and brought to blossom ever fragrant flower that delights the eye.

Look at the stars in their silent beauty! See the handiwork of the Great Artist in this wonderful world of ours! Let us lift our hands and hearts in adoration and glorify Him who is perfect in His love and purpose.