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THE FULLNESS OF  
LIFE

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AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN  
IDEA

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THE FULFILLMENT OF LIFE  
The Autobiography of an Artist  
by  
Jack Lindsay

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If so wished, the work could be illustrated with photos, with some reproductions of works by N.L. and so on.

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The Autobiography of an Idea

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## FOREWORD

I have written some other autobiographical works; but this book attempts something quite different. It starts off from a day in 1919 when I took an oath of total resistance to the world about me - an oath which included the refusal to take any job which did not come out of the inner needs of my poetry. And it traces the efforts to live up to this resolution in changing situations, changing phases of development. Though outer events are not ignored, they are brought in only to the extent that they give the necessary frame for the inner struggle. As I am thus dealing primarily with my ideas, their changes and their continuity, I have had to deal with my writings, in which at each phase the ideas were set out or incarnated. It is not for me to evaluate those works, but I can validly use them for the setting-out of ~~the~~ ideas. To summarise past ideas from a later viewpoint is inevitably to oversimplify, modify, and change them; for the idiom of the two periods <sup>and the perspective</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>are</sup> different. I have therefore cited a certain amount of passages, especially <sup>in</sup> ~~when~~ the early <sup>time</sup> period. Only thus could a direct impact from the period be gained. Also, as then verse was my central activity, I have given some passages from the plays in which I was setting out my outlook and my values.

Jack Lindsay

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