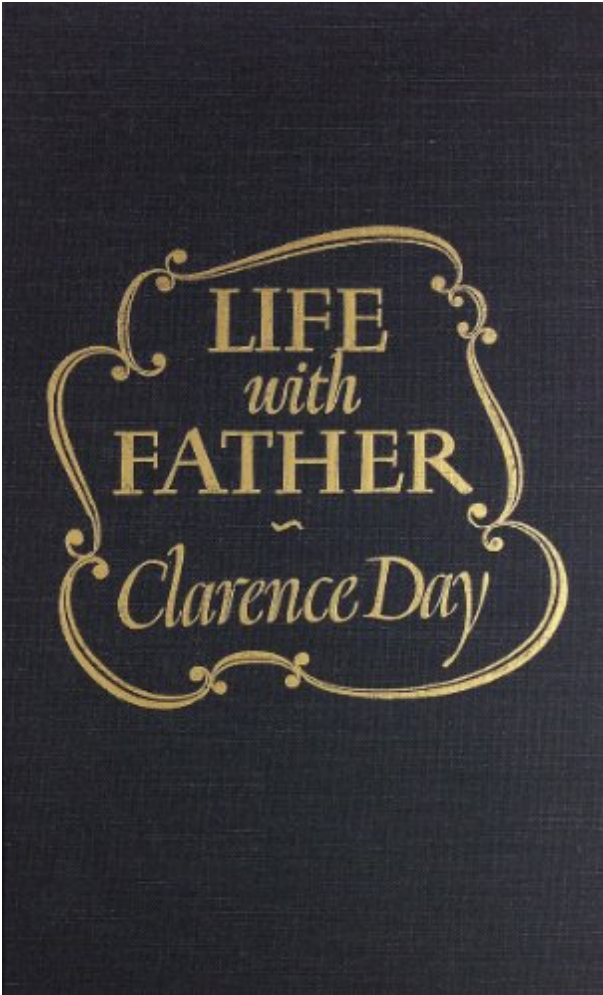
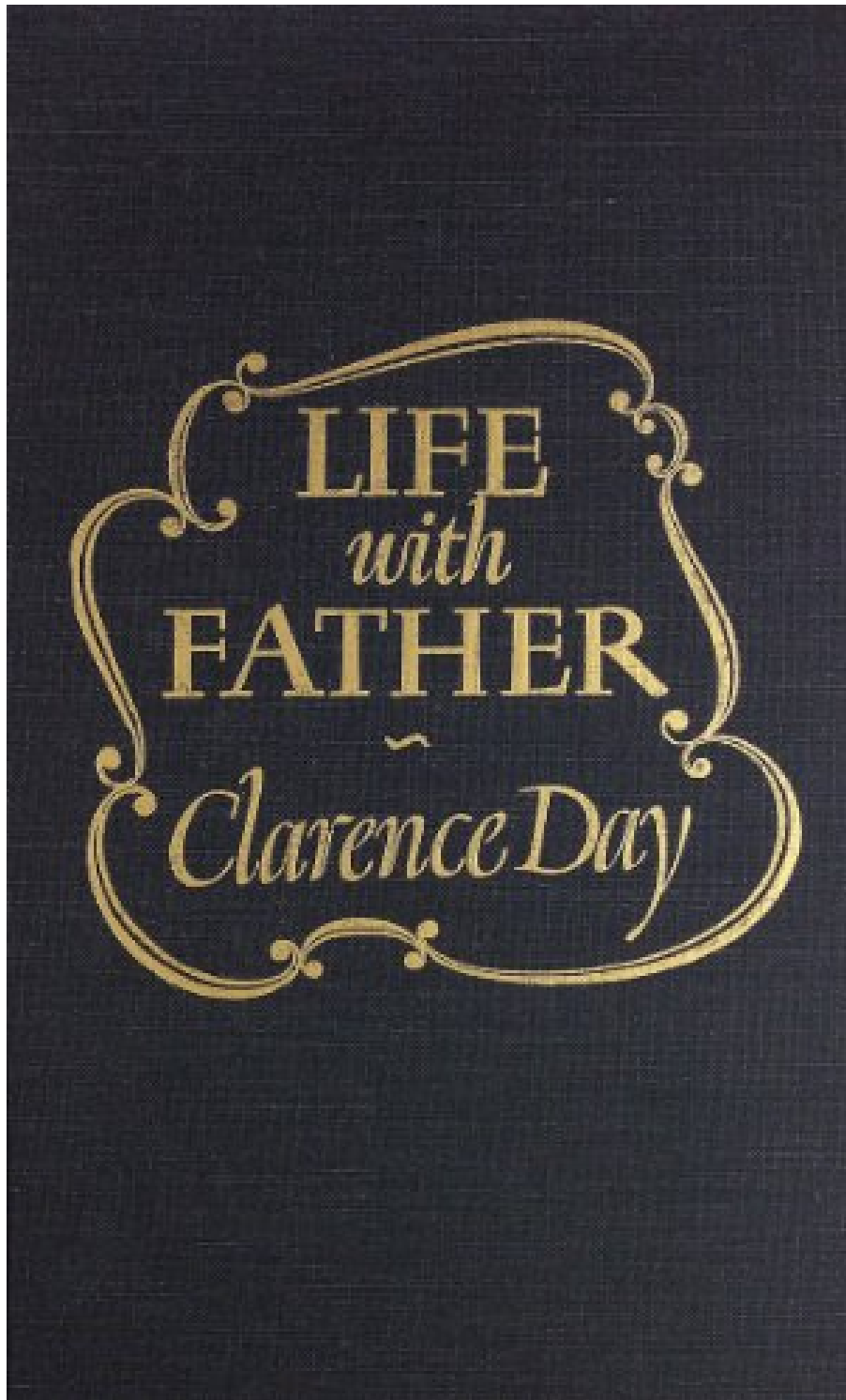


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Clarence Day's comic stories of his father, Clarence "Clare" Day Senior are taken from the "New Yorker" magazine. They portray a rambunctious, overburdened Wall Street broker who demands that everything from his family should be just so. When it isn't, all hell breaks loose and an amusing sight it is too from a safe enough distance. Clare is intolerant, tyrannical and plain obnoxious in his constant battle to harness the world to his way of thinking. He rages against his staff, his cook, his wife, his horse, salesmen, the need for holidays, the need to be ill and, of course, the inability of his children to live up to his impossible standards. Yet, the more he rails, the more comic a figure he cuts and the more he blusters, the more lovable this makes him to his own beleaguered family.

- Sales Rank: #1590398 in Books
- Published on: 1931-05-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.70" h x .60" w x 5.70" l, .70 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover

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2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

amusing

By Wayne S. Walker

Clarence Shepard Day Jr. (November 18, 1874–December 28, 1935) grew up in New York City, NY in the 1890s and early 1900's. His father, Clarence S. "Clare" Day Sr., was a Wall Street broker. The son attended St. Paul's School and graduated from Yale University in 1896, where he edited campus humor magazine *The Yale Record*. The following year, he joined the New York Stock Exchange, and became a partner in his father's Wall Street brokerage firm. Day enlisted in the Navy in 1898, but developed crippling arthritis and spent the remainder of his life as a semi-invalid, making his living as a writer and long-time contributor to *The New Yorker* magazine. His first book, *This Simian World* (1920), was a collection of humorous essays and illustrations. He is best known for his 1935 autobiographical work *Life With Father* which detailed humorous episodes in his family's life, centering on his rather domineering but still lovable father.

Day's comic stories of his father are taken from his serialized articles in the *The New Yorker* magazine. Drawn from his own family experiences, these were pleasant and gently satirical portraits of a late Victorian household dominated by a gruff, opinionated father who demands that everything from his family should be just so, and a warm, charming mother. Some people don't like them because they feel that Mr. Day was vulgar, disrespectful, and obnoxious. I tend to agree with others who point out that, yes, the father is somewhat rude, maybe even intolerant and tyrannical, but following his antics is still very humorous. Remember, the author is describing real events and real people. The book does paint an accurate picture of life in that time for a middle class family. And it is evident that "Clare" loved his wife and family, and while he blustered and yelled at times, they loved him. There are references to smoking tobacco, drinking alcoholic beverages, and dancing.

My biggest complaint is the sheer amount of profanity and cursing Mr. Day used. Thus, I would suggest that the best use of this book would be as a family read aloud so that the bad language could be eliminated. Aside from this problem, I found the book very amusing. Scenes from the book, along with its 1932 predecessor, *God and My Father*, and its 1937 sequel, *Life with Mother*, published posthumously, were the basis for the 1939 play by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, which became one of Broadway's longest-running non-musical hits. In 1947, the year the play ended on Broadway, William Powell and Irene Dunne portrayed Day's parents in the film of the same name. *Life with Father* also became a popular 1953–1955 television sitcom.

16 of 16 people found the following review helpful.

Life with Father (by Clarence Day)

By A Customer

I loved this book as a preteen and I loved it, and the sequel "*Life with Mother*" too. Mr. Day paints an accurate picture of life in the early 1900's for a middle class family. Yes, his father is rude and a bit obnoxious, but watching him is very funny. He loved his wife and family and while he blustered and yelled, they loved him. I enjoyed this book and thought it was great.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

Entertaining look at life in New York City in the early 1900

By A Customer

Humorous look at life in the Day household. The author paints a vivid picture of life with his parents: a very proper, no nonsense father and his slightly fey mother. Basis for the movie "*Life With Father*". A nice quick read with plenty of humor

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