



**Adventures  
In Religious Life**

## AUTHOR'S PREFACE

This book has its origin in the instructions and blessings I received from my revered teacher, Swami Brahmananda—the spiritual son of Bhagavan Sri Ramakrishna. Wishing to see me grow along intellectual and literary lines side by side with the spiritual, the Swami greatly encouraged me in my study of religious and allied literature. Once he said: "Form your habit of study to such an extent that you will feel unhappy if any day you fail to pursue your studies." Then he explained what he meant: "The mind may not always be able to remain on the spiritual plane. In that case it may be kept occupied with higher religious thoughts, and will not be allowed to fall into a lower plane." The words of the master gave me great incentive to my studies of which I sometimes kept elaborate notes.

During the early years of my monastic life, for fear of developing a false ego, I was very reluctant to discuss religious matters with the members of the public or



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