

Levi Pennington

People

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1964

## How Can I Be Happy? 1964

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## HOW CAN I BE HAPPY?

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### How can I be happy?

Day and night I hear a helpless little girl in a slum crying, "Oh father, don't beat me! Please don't beat me!"

### What right have I to be happy?

Millions of war refugees, men, women and children, still exist -- it can't be called living -- in concentration camps or in foreign lands among strangers.

### How can anybody be happy?

Half the world goes hungry to bed -- if bed it can be called -- every night.

### Is it possible to be happy?

A people that boasted of their civilization in the land that was once the chief center of Christianity have murdered millions of men and women and children whose crime was that they were members of the race to which Jesus Christ belonged.

### How can we hope for happiness, ever?

The greatest nation on earth, founded on Christian faith, and the second greatest, founded on atheism, are united in their trust in powers of destruction, and each has power enough to wipe the whole human race off the face of the earth.

### How can I be happy?

Day and night I hear a helpless little girl in a slum crying, "Oh father, don't beat me! Please don't beat me!"

### O God, I implore Thee

Change things so that a man can be happy without closing his mind heartlessly against the sufferings of mankind. And oh, show me how I can help to bring in that better world.

Levi T. Pennington.