



The GIRL in the MIRROR

By Elizabeth Jordan

"Stand exactly where you are," David's voice was very quiet, but there was a quality in it which added to the chill of the night. "I know you're not alone, but if any of your eyes shows himself, I'll shoot him dead. If you move or utter one word, or cry out, I'll kill you. Do you understand?"

Shaw did understand. The look in his protruding eyes proved that. Those eyes shifted wildly, turning this way and that, as if in search of the help which lurked among those spectral trees. He himself stood as motionless as one of them, and as he stood he moistened his thin lips with the tip of a trembling tongue.

"Now," said Laurie, "I'm going to have the truth. I'm going to have it



"Stand Exactly Where You Are!"

all and I'm going to have it quick. If you don't tell it, I'll kill you. Probably I shall kill you anyway. But first you will answer two questions. What power have you got over Miss Mayo? And what are you trying to do?"

Shaw hesitated. Again his protruding eyes turned wildly to the right and left, as if in search of help. Still holding the revolver in his right hand, Laurie slowly reached out his left and seized the other's throat in the grip of his powerful young fingers.

"I started to raise his hands," Laurie thought the game isn't up, but it is. Now talk, and talk quick."

He tightened his grip on the thick, slippery throat. "I'm enjoying this," he rasped. "If you were anything but the snake you are, I'd give you a fighting chance. But a creature that uses chloroform and hires three thugs to help him in his dirty jobs—"

He increased the pressure on the thick neck. Shaw's face began to purple. His eyes bulged horribly. He choked, and with the act gave up.

"Hold on," he gurgled. "Listen."

The pressure on his throat slightly relaxed. With eyes closed, he collapsed against the nearest tree trunk. Laurie followed him, expecting some treacherous move; but all the fight seemed out of the serpent. He was clutching at his coat and collar as if not yet able to breathe.

"I've had enough of this," he finally gasped out. "I'll tell you everything."

Even as he spoke, Laurie observed that one of the clutching, clawing hands had apparently got hold of what it was seeking.

Doris, feeling her way through the blackness of the storm on the unfamiliar country road, heard above the wind the sound of a sharp explosion which she thought meant a blown-out tire. She did not stop. Before her, only a short distance away, was the garage to which she was hastening and where she was to wait for Laurie. To go on meant to take a chance, but she had been ordered not to stop. There was a certain exhilaration in obeying that order. Crouched over the wheel, with head bent, and guessing at the turns she could not see, she pressed on through the storm.

CHAPTER XV

Burke Makes a Promise

Burke, dozing over the fire in his so-called office, was aroused from his dreams by the appearance of a vision. For a moment he blinked at it doubtfully. Then into his eyes came a dawning intelligence, slightly tinged with reproach.

Burke was an unimaginative man.

who did not like to be jarred out of his routine. Already that day several unusual incidents had occurred; and though, like popular tales, they ended happily, they had been almost too great a stimulus to thought. Now here was another. In the form of a girl, young and beautiful, and apparently blown into his presence on the wings of the wild storm that was raging.

Somewhat uncertainly, Mr. Burke arose and approached the vision, which, standing at the threshold of his sanctum, thereupon addressed him in hurried but reassuring human tones.

"I've had a blowout," the lady briefly announced. "Will you put on a 'spare,' please, and take a look at the other shoes?"

This service, she estimated, would take half an hour of the proprietor's time, if he moved with the customary deliberation of his class, and would, of course, make superfluous any explanation of her wait in the garage, and of her nervousness, if he happened to be sufficiently observant to notice that.

It was really fortunate that the blowout had occurred. Surely within the half hour Laurie would have rejoined her. If he did not, she frankly conceded to herself, she would go mad with suspense. There was a limit to what she could endure, and that limit had been reached. Thirty minutes more of patience and courage and seeming calm covered the last draft she could make on a nervous system already greatly overtaxed.

Burke drew his worn office chair close to the red-hot stove, and was mildly pained by the lady's failure to avail herself of the comfort thus offered.

This, it will be remembered, was January, 1917, three months before America's entry into the World war, and women able to drive motors were comparatively rare. Any girl who could drive a car in a storm like this, and through the drifts of country roads—Mr. Burke, having reluctantly removed himself from the lady's presence, was now beside her car, and at this point in his reflections he uttered an exclamation and his jaw dropped.

"It's the lad's car!" he ejaculated slowly, and for a moment stood staring at it. Then, still slowly, he nodded.

It was the lad's car which, only a short time before, he himself had put in perfect order for a swift run to New York. Now this girl had it, but it was easy to see why. He had been—

As his meditations continued he was cursorily glancing at the tires, looking for the one that had sustained the blowout. He was not greatly surprised to find every tire perfect. There had been plenty of mysteries in the lad's conduct, and this was merely another trifle to add to the list. Undoubtedly the lady had her reasons for insisting on a blowout, and if she had, it was no affair of his. Also, the price for changing that tire would be a dollar, and Mr. Burke was always willing to pick up a dollar.

Whistling softly but sweetly, he removed a rear shoe, replaced it with one of the "spares" on the car's rack, and solemnly retested the others. The task, as Doris had expected, took him almost half an hour. When it was completed he lounged back to the lady and assured her that the car was again ready for service.

The lady hesitated. There was no sign of Laurie, and she dared not leave. Yet on what pretext could she linger? With the manner of one who has unlimited time at her disposal, she demanded her bill, a written one, and paid it. Then, checking herself on a casual journey toward the big coat, she showed a willingness to indulge in that exchange of friendly points of view for which Burke's heart had longed.

The exchange was not brilliant, but Burke made the most of it. No, he told her, they didn't often have storms as bad as this. One, several years ago, had blocked traffic for two days, but that was very unusual.

With a gallant effort at ease, the lady took up the theme of the storm and embroidered it in pretty colors and with much delicate fancy. When the pattern was getting somewhat confused, she suddenly asked a leading question.

"Which shoe blew out?"

(TO BE CONTINUED)

I will not be responsible for any debts contracted by my wife Alberta Lammert, after Monday, Aug. 30. Albert Lammert 205-3tx

Get the Habit—Trade at Home, it Pays

Bluffton's Population Is Estimated At 6,516

Bluffton, Aug. 31.—Bluffton's city population is now 6,516, a gain of 1,125 over the government census of 1920, which was 5,391.

This was the announcement made Saturday by Postmaster Ralph C. Thomas, following a careful postal census, which has been in progress all week.

"This estimate is a conservative one," Postmaster Thomas declared. "All pains were taken to obtain an exact count. Transients receiving mail at the general delivery were not counted. Every carrier both in Bluffton and on the rural route took unusual care in counting the number in every family."

The total number of people receiving their mail at residential places is 6,379, while a total of 137 get mail by general delivery, not including transients.

It is also shown by the report that there is a total population of 4,739 receiving mail on Bluffton's rural routes, making a grand total of both city and country of 11,255.

The population on each rural route is as follows: R. R. 1, 519; R. R. 2, 497; R. R. 3, 614; R. R. 4, 508; R. R. 5, 872; R. R. 6, 566; R. R. 7, 493; R. R. 8, 577.

Reformatory Guard Is Killed In Auto Wreck

Anderson, Ind., Aug. 30.—(United Press.)—Thomas Wheeler, 30, a guard at the Indiana reformatory was instantly killed and Frank Yeister, 52, another guard, was severely injured Saturday when the car in which they were riding plunged down a fifteen foot embankment.

Yeister was removed to the reformatory hospital while Wheeler's body was taken to his home in Noblesville.

Faith In Human Honesty Restored

Carlinville, Ill., Aug. 31.—The faith in human honesty which Pearl Cobb, lineman lost at least temporarily was restored when a small boy stepped up to him on the street and thrust what proved to be a match and some money into his pocket. The belongings had been stolen from Cobb's clothing while he was swimming. He asked no questions.

Birth

Mr. and Mrs. J. Henry Faurate are the proud parents of a girl baby born Sunday evening. She has been named Mary Catherine. Mother and babe are getting along nicely.

PETERS ATTACKS CLAIMS OF G.O.P.

Democratic Chairman Discounts Republican Claim Of Economy In State

Roseville, Ind., August 30.—(United Press.)—Republican claims that economy in administration of the state government made payment of the state debt possible were attacked here on Friday by R. Earl Peters, democratic state chairman.

Speaking before a conference of sixth district democratic workers, Peters asserted that "a juggling of state funds and a tremendous tax collection of \$53,000,000 led to payment of the debt."

"By the mere clerical act of transferring amounts from special funds to the general fund the latter fund was increased overnight," Peters asserted.

He asserted amounts so transferred stood as a charge against the general fund which will have to be repaid under the law. The amount of such transfers, he asserted, is \$3,000,000.

Taxes paid from all sources in one year amounted to \$53,000,000, according to Peters.

Landslide Buries Town

Rangoon, Aug. 31.—(United Press.)—Twenty bodies have been removed from the ruins of the Camp Bawdurn Mine in Burma, devastated by a landslide, twenty four persons were injured in the landslide.

Seventy dwellings occupied by laborers were destroyed.

Particular About Brand

Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 31.—(United Press.)—Prosecutor Remy, of Marion county, was snubbed by a negro who appealed to him for alms.

Finding himself without any change, Remy offered the negro a package of cigarettes.

"Ah don't smoke that brand," said the negro, turning away in disdain.

Birth

Mr. and Mrs. J. Henry Faurate are the proud parents of a girl baby born Sunday evening. She has been named Mary Catherine. Mother and babe are getting along nicely.

Man Arrested For Robbery At Portland

Portland, Aug. 31.—A fugitive from justice for more than a year fell into the toils of the law Saturday at Muncie, when the authorities there placed Carl White, former clothing salesman and tailor of this city, under arrest at the instigation of Sheriff Ben Hawkins, on a charge of receiving stolen property as the result of the burglary and looting of the Baumgartner jewelry store here in the early hours of the morning of June 1, 1925. White has successfully eluded the officers since the robbery and although sheriff Hawkins learned that he was seen in Muncie a few days ago and with Deputy Sheriff Paul L. Ashley, made a trip to that city to arrest him, he could not be located at that time. Arrangements will be made for a hearing on the charge and in all probability the case will be disposed of during the September term of court, which convenes a week hence.

John Baumgartner, owner of the jewelry store, is a former resident of this city.

Sinclair Lewis' Father Dies

Sauk Center, Minn., August 31.—(United Press.)—Dr. E. J. Lewis, father of Sinclair Lewis, the novelist, died at midnight at his home here after a long illness. He was 78 years old. The author who is at International Falls, Minn., was notified of his father's death.

Mail addressed to the following persons remains in the Decatur post-office: Mr. Clyde Troutner, Mr. Wm. Griffith, Mrs. Mary Ainsworth and T. H. Oberdorfer.

Grain Alcohol Disappears

Rockford, Ill., Aug. 31.—(United Press.)—Federal prohibition authorities today began an investigation into the mysterious disappearance of \$50,000 worth of grain alcohol from a government warehouse in Rockford in August.

The liquor was stored in the distill-

FOR MECHANICS' HANDS
REMOVES PAINT and OIL

RUB-NO-MORE
WASHING POWDER

5¢

Watermelons
Ice Cold

Served whole or by the slice at our stand on the Fair Ground.
Located at the Grand Stand.

Central Grocery

"Of Course."

EAGERNESS

This bank is just as eager to make the dealings of its patrons satisfactory as is the wise merchant whose hobby is good store service.

First National Bank

Capital and Surplus—\$120,000.00

Decatur, Indiana

See These New Models On Display At Auto Show At Northern Indiana Fair This Week

THE NEW NASH SPECIAL SIX FOUR-DOOR SEDAN IS FINISHED IN DUOTONE

TWO HARMONIOUS TONES OF BEIGE ENHANCE THE BEAUTY OF THE NEW NASH SPECIAL SIX 4-PASSENGER ROADSTER

IN THIS NEW SPECIAL SIX SEDAN NASH PRESENTS AN UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE ENCLOSED MODEL

The 6 cylinder models with 7 bearing crankshaft motor.

Nash Sales and Service

Runyon Garage G. A. Busick, Dealer Phone 772

ery warehouse of the Chicago grain products company. James Watson, Chicago prohibition official, is directing the investigation.

WILLIAMS FILLING STATION, So. 13th street is now open for business. We sell Red Crown gasoline and earnestly solicit your patronage. 20413

You've Been Waiting For It. Here It Is!

MILLER'S Twin Loaf

In order to take care of the popular demand we are now serving the public with the new TWIN LOAF BREAD.

This new bread idea is baked in our own modern and sanitary bakery by master bakers and contains all the ingredients that insures its goodness.

You'll like TWIN LOAF'S golden brown crust, its smoothness and its delicious taste.

TWIN LOAF always stays fresh. You can separate the loaves easily and keep one wrapped while the other is in use.

MILLER'S TWIN LOAF is now ready and for sale at all dealers.

Millers Bakery

North Second Street