

GLORIA

THE FLAPPER WIFE

May Seymour and Gloria Arrange An Impromptu Party.

THE STORY SO FAR:
GLORIA GORDON, a beautiful flapper, marries DICK GREGORY, a struggling lawyer. The idea of marriage is fun and fine clothes are the best work for children.

She refuses to do her own housework and hires RANGHILD SWANSON, although Dick says they can't afford a maid. She is a good woman, but debts for her clothes and a new automobile.

Gloria becomes infatuated with STANLEY WAYBURN, an out-of-work actor. Her mother, MRS. JOHN SEYMOUR, warns her not to be seen with Wayburn. She tells him she has a secret, but he is won over because of her love affair with JIM CAREW.

Dick becomes seriously ill with pneumonia. During the days of his slow recovery, he sees Wayburn constantly. He tells her he is going to New York to get a job. He needs money.

Gloria knows that Jim is in love with her. Miss BRIGGS, for Wayburn. She tells him she needs the money for the house.

Gloria and Wayburn go driving and the car burns out and disappears. Gloria, badly hurt, is taken to the hospital. When she is better Dick goes to see her, but she has forgave him and is still with Wayburn. When she goes home, she begins to cry. She is happy. One night Dick finds her in tears.

By Beatrice Burton

CHAPTER XXXIX

WHAT'S the matter, honey?" he asked, yawning. "What are you crying about?"

Gloria raised her tear-stained face. "My arm aches," she said. "And I'm lonesome."

"Lonesome?" Dick repeated. "Why should you be lonesome right here in your own house with me?"

Gloria sniffed.

"You!" she cried. "You aren't here only when you're asleep! Why don't you stay awake and talk to me?"

Dick laughed good-naturedly. He pulled his lacquer smoking stand up beside his chair and filled his pipe. It was a little short-stemmed briar pipe that smelled like a bonfire of autumn leaves.

He puffed for a while in silence.

"Do you want me to tell you what ails you, Glory?" he asked at last. "What makes you so restless and unhappy?"

There was a troubled look in Gloria's eyes. She turned her wedding ring round and round on her finger nervously.

"Tell me," she said.

"Well...you're out of a job,"

Dick answered her.

"Oh, I might have known that was what you were going to say," Gloria snapped. "You think work is the answer to everything!"

Dick took his pipe out of his mouth. "It is," he said.

"Marriage is a job like everything else," he went on. "But you won't work at it. You'd be happy enough if you got up every morning and made the coffee and got breakfast. You wouldn't have so much time to cry about being lonesome if you had to dust the house every day. You'd have something to look forward to if you were sitting there making a little baby dress this minute... You haven't anything to do! That's all that's wrong with you, honey."

He tapped the tobacco from his pipe into an ash tray and rose.

"Think it over," he said.

Gloria tossed her head.

"You've got me all wrong, smartly," she cried. "It isn't dusting I need to make me happy. It's dancing!"

Dick laughed.

"Jazz baby!" he said. "Tied up to a 9-o'clock husband!"

"Well, it's no joke...you needn't laugh," Gloria answered him hotly.

"I hate to stick around the house like this every night, slowly dying of dry-rot. I want some fun, some parties!... If this is married life, I hate it. So there!"

"Well, I'm sorry, Glory," Dick said soberly. "But I don't see how I can help you out..."

He crossed the room to the bookcases and brought her a thick, shabby volume. It was Flaubert's "Madame Bovary."

"Here's a story of another woman who hated married life," he said. "Read it. There's a lesson in it for you, Glory."

Gloria took the book and hurried it across the room.

"I don't want to read about life. I want to live it!" she cried. "You Sunday-school prig, you!"

Without another look or word Dick went out of the room.

After a few minutes Gloria could hear the thud of his shoes on the floor of his room upstairs as he

threw them down. Then came the sound of his window being raised. The hall clock struck nine.



"Good-bye," she said to May, as she and Jim danced past the living-room door where she was standing.

of Endor! And John sees me this way and he goes right on loving me just as much as if I were a raving beauty. Can you beat it?"

"You can not," Gloria answered, seating herself on one corner of the kitchen table. "But don't take too many chances, May. Men don't stay in love forever with wives who run around the house in curl papers and cold cream. They all fall for a pretty lily."

"Ann, you're some kid," he was saying to her when Gloria came into the kitchen. "You know doggone well that you're not going to marry Ted Sawyer. Why don't you tell him so, instead of letting him dangle in the wind?"

Ann went on buttering her toast. She hadn't seen Gloria come into the kitchen.

"Well, I've got to have someone to take me around...since you won't, Jim," she answered softly. "Ted does as well as anyone."

Gloria coughed and cleared her throat.

"The nasty little cat!" she said to herself. "I'll bet she's trying to land Jim, because of his money. In the meantime she's keeping this Ted hanging around in case Jim doesn't bite. Why can't Jim see through it?"

She was dancing the Texas Tommy for Ted Sawyer and Jim Collins, the two nice young salesmen from Jim's office.

Presently Jim came in with a tray of "horse's necks."

"Ann says lunch is ready," he said. "Isn't this a good party, boys?"

Everyone but Gloria seemed to think it was a good party. She couldn't dance because of her bandaged arm and shoulder. She didn't want her horse's neck or her cigarette. She felt "blue" somehow.

At 4 o'clock she went upstairs and got her hat.

"Good-bye," she said to May, as she and Jim danced past the living-room door where she was standing. "Just let me sneak away without saying 'good-bye' to the others. They won't miss me."

"What'sa matter?" May asked.

"Lose your pep or don't you like my party?"

(To Be Continued)

TRAFFIC DEMOLITION

Sewer gas explosion at the K. of P. Bldg., Massachusetts Ave. and Pennsylvania St., late Friday demolished downtown traffic and caused \$75 damage to the building.

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