

# A SUITOR TOO MANY

MILDRED BARBOUR

CONCERNING THE ACTION AND REACTION OF LILA LATHAM, the bride of HERBERT WARE, but the picture of an old sweetheart, CAPTAIN JACK FARQUHAR, lurks in her mind. She cannot get the picture of her best friend, DOROTHY CAIN, out of her mind. The letter which she has just received from Lila at Dorothy's studio, and it tells her that Lila is to be married to Herbert.

On returning from her honeymoon, she is told that communication from the War Department is awaiting her. In a flash, Lila's mind goes back to the memories of her first meeting with Captain Farquhar, when she was a young girl, and he was a young man.

She sees again the scene in a little French inn—dinner to celebrate her marriage on the morning to Jack—then orders that the very same scene be repeated to the front at once. There is no wedding, but, before Jack's officers, Lila promises him that she will wait for him—that they will be married when he returns, no matter what time intervenes. Jack leaves and three days later a reported soldier, but he is not officially reported dead until five years later. It is only then that Lila feels herself free to marry Herbert.

The letter from the War Department tells her that Jack's insurance is to be paid to her as his estate. She is told that a man who has called in regard to the insurance. She tells him that she is a widow, but she is not. She is a widow, but she is not. She is a widow, but she is not.

Herbert's unsympathetic attitude for he is jealous of Lila's friendship with Dorothy—almost causes a quarrel. To make amends, he buys her a bracelet, and puts it in her jewel-case. As a surprise, there he sees a ring—a diamond ring—that she had worn when she was a girl. She tells him that she has a ring that she had worn when she was a girl.

She explains further that Mrs. Varney gave her the ring, against her protests, as security for a bridge debt. Herbert believes her story. After this, the sight of a certain man in a shop throws Lila into a panic.

His name is GILROY HOLMES, an army officer whom she knew in France. He is a man who has called in regard to the insurance. She tells him that she is a widow, but she is not. She is a widow, but she is not. She is a widow, but she is not.

Herbert, meanwhile, meets Mrs. Varney in a restaurant where she turns to jewelry. She tells him she loves rings—except wedding rings. He tells her that he has a ring that she had worn when she was a girl.

Dorothy, who is with Lila when he arrives, tells him the ring is a French one, that it was given her by a French woman, and that she is a widow. She tells him that she is a widow, but she is not. She is a widow, but she is not. She is a widow, but she is not.

Some time later, Mrs. Varney's husband innocently reveals to Herbert the fact that his wife has never been abroad. Lila manages an explanation of this, only to have a new crisis loom.

Herbert learns of her generous gift to the fund for disabled war veterans. She says she was merely the agent for her uncle, who wanted to honor the memory of a soldier son. And then Dorothy telephones that a man has just arrived from Jack Farquhar. He is alive and well and on his way home.

Lila faints. CHAPTER XXII The Very Narrow Squeak FOLLOWING the cable announcing the imminent arrival of Jack Farquhar, Lila wanted nothing so much as to stay in bed, away from everything, to think out some solution to her problem.

But she didn't dare take refuge in her momentary indisposition; it was too dangerous to seek security and allow Heaven-know-what to break under Herbert's nose, without her resourceful presence there to contrive some distraction.

So she dragged herself through her round of social duties, thankful, in a way, that they kept her from too much miserable introspection and recrimination. When May Varney called up and asked the Wares to dinner, Lila accepted, though May explained:

"It's just a small, informal party for a few friends, so, if anything special turns up later, don't hesitate to break the date. I shan't be a bit offended."

Lila and Herbert were the last guests to arrive, a fact that greatly perturbed Herbert, especially since Lila's tardiness was due to an afternoon session with Dorothy. The truth was that Lila had spent three hours in an effort to persuade Dorothy to meet Jack Farquhar at the pier. Dorothy, for once, was adamant; smiling, sweet, but firm.

As Lila and Herbert passed through the Varney's hall on their way upstairs, Lila caught a glimpse of a group in the dining room. A good-looking young man was bending over May Varney's hand.

"Stunning, eh, what?" And Cherry, in her new transparent velvet, pinpointed on a saucy heel before Alan Beardsley, at the entrance to the tearoom of the Randolph hotel.

"Rather!" The handsome, distinguished-looking man replied in kind. "I'm so glad you could join us, Mrs. Hathaway. My afraid Cherry is getting a bit fed up on my anecdotes."

His face was toward Lila, but he did not see her. Lila gave a gasp and hastened up the stairs. Her knees were unsteady. Herbert asked solicitously: "What is it, dearest? Do you feel faint again?"

Lila's thoughts were in chaos, but she grasped at the straw he offered. "I—I'd like to lie down a bit. Do you think May would mind?" Herbert stared at her anxiously. She did look pale.

"Have the maid fix you comfortably, I'll tell Mrs. Varney; I'm sure she'll understand. Lila sank on a divan in May Varney's luxurious dressing room and stared, with frightened eyes, at her own reflection in the mirror.

"What am I going to do?" she wondered. "I don't meet Gilroy Holmes face to face, especially since Jack is coming home and they're sure to run across each other." She thought desperately of running away, as she had done that day in Vanderpoel's shop, but there was May Varney to consider. And Herbert would be horrified.

She heard light footsteps on the stairs and hastily lay down on the divan and closed her eyes. May Varney hurried into the room. "You poor child Herbert tells me you're all but fainting. Can I do something?"

Lila opened one eye and regarded Mrs. Varney speculatively. "Would you mind awfully, May, if I didn't come down to dinner? Would it upset your party?"

"Not a bit," May assured her. "I told you it was an informal affair—just a few friends. But you'll be hungry; don't you think you'll feel like coming down, after I send you a cocktail and some hot bouillon?"

Lila considered. It was obvious that a mere moment of faintness wouldn't account for her absence from the dinner. And she simply had to be absent.

SHE resolved to trust May. "I—listen, May, the truth is that I'm not a bit faint, really. But there's a man downstairs whom I don't want to meet."

May stared. "But there's only the Don Ste-warts and the Granges—you're the best of friends."

"There's one other," said Lila hal-lowly. "You mean—Mr. Holmes, the new man with Herbert and Jack?"

"I—knew him in France." "Oh!" May winked knowingly. "So that's it? I say, what rotten luck to have your own husband give him a job!"

"Isn't it?" murmured Lila bit-terly. "Anyway, I—I'd rather not see him. Do you mind my bolt-ing?"

"Certainly not. But how will I explain it?" "Wait till I've gone," said Lila, "and then tell Herbert and say that I didn't want to spoil the party by being ill."

May chuckled. "It must be thrilling to have an CAPTURE PROWLER

Woman Corners Negro, He Runs, Caught Later On. A Negro youth jumped from the roof of the home of Mrs. George Hess, 1123 North Arsenal avenue, in an attempt to escape today after Mrs. Hess had cornered him in her home.

Two passersby, however, gave chase and captured him. He gave his name as Francis Watkins, living at Talbott avenue and Arch street. He said he is 14.

She found the youth in her home after she had heard the front door bell ring and had failed to answer it, Mrs. Hess said.

The indulgence of a proud possessor. "Toasted English muffin and orange pekoe tea for me. . . And oh, yes, some Shepherds' cigars. . . Well, girls, I'm the most to-be-envied man in the room. Two beautiful girls for tea. Dancing here, I believe?"

Faith stepped in determinedly. "How long are you going to be in town, Mr. Beardsley?" "Two exchanged a long, level look before the experienced man, of-the-world said courteously: "I really can't say, Mrs. Hathaway. I expected to be in Stanton only a week or so, but my business here is holding me fast for an indefinite period."

European past! Fancy its pursuing you like this!" Lila thought resentfully: "If she only knew the truth!"

With May's help, she slipped out through the tradesmen's entrance, while May kept the servants out of the way. At the corner she found a taxi was driven home.

Fifteen minutes later, when Herbert called up, Lila's maid told him that madame had gone to bed. She had.

She lay staring into the darkness, awaiting Herbert's return and wondering what new misadventure was to befall her. On the morrow Jack Farquhar's boat would dock.

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## How Bright Is Your Baby?

How does your 2-year-old compare with the average child? Underscore Yes when he succeeds and No when he fails. Then compare what he does with the key at the end of the page.

1. Hold your arms over your head. Can baby do it after you? Yes No
2. Tell him to show you the baby in his picture book, or the doggie, or the kitty. Can he do it? Yes No
3. Does he imitate the older children at play? Yes No
4. Say "Bring me the ball." Will he do it? Yes No
5. If he sees his blocks on the floor, can he walk directly over to them? Yes No
6. Draw a circle (make the outline clear and black). Will he try to draw one like it? Yes No
7. Give him a piece of candy (molasses kisses are good) wrapped in paper. Make sure he knows that there is candy inside the paper. Will he try to take off the paper before putting the candy in his mouth? Yes No
8. Does baby blush? Yes No
9. Does he "get into everything?" Yes No
10. Does he have a sense of ownership? Yes No
11. Draw a chair (using three lines). Does the baby recognize it for a chair? Yes No
12. Can he tell you his last name? Yes No
13. Show him an interesting picture. Say: "Tell me what you see?" Does he name at least three objects? Yes No
14. Can he point to his nose when you say: "Show me your nose?" Yes No
15. Does he use sentences like "What is that?" Yes No

### Key to Questions

Yes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 15. No: 8. Many children blush when they are 2 years old. Idiots and young infants do not blush. No: 9. It is a nuisance to have baby into everything but that is the way he learns. The baby who shows no curiosity is apt to be subnormal. No: 12, 13, 14. The average baby does not succeed in these until he is 3.

Next we will see how baby plays.

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## CUT POWER RATES

New Schedules for 10 Cities Are Approved.

New schedules for reduced electric rates, which involve both light and power, were approved by the public service commission today for ten Indiana towns served by the General Utilities Company.

Towns effected are Palmyra, Greenville, Galena, Crandall, Ramsey, Depauw, Marengo, Leavenworth, English and Pekin. Approval was given an Indianapolis-Louisville freight truck line to be operated by the Denney Motor Transfer Company, New Albany.

Hiram A. Mann, owner of the Eagle Bus line, was permitted to sell his operating permit from Greensburg to the Ohio state line near Lawrenceville, to H. J. Grandall and S. J. Marx.

Petition of the Southern Indiana Telephone and Telegraph company, of Goodrich utility, to operate toll lines from Huntington to Holland and from Cuzco to Dubois was turned down. Objection was made by the Holland Telephone company now serving this district.

Approval was given a contract of the T. H. I. & E. to buy surplus power of the Richmond Municipal Light company, owned by the city of Richmond.

One hundred citizens of Royal Center filed petition for lower electric rates from the Northern Indiana Power company, and a utility. They allege discrimination in comparison with other towns served.

Given R. O. T. C. Captaincy By Times Special BREMEN, Ind., Nov. 10.—Carl M. Sauer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sauer of this city, has been named a cadet captain in the Reserve Officers Training Corps of Purdue university. He is a senior in the school of electrical engineering. When Sauer is graduated next June he will be commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve Corps.

Franklin Prexy Writes Book By Times Special FRANKLIN, Ind., Nov. 10.—A book entitled "Public School Finance" by President Rainey of Franklin college will be off the press in January or February.

### OUR BOARDING HOUSE

By Ahern

AH MR. HOBBLES, BESSER I SHOULD TELL YOU NOW, ALFUA VILL NEFFER LEARN TO BLAY DER VIOLEEN!—NO!—FOR DREI YEARS I HAF TRIED TO TEACH HIM MUTZIK, BUT IT ISS IMBOSSIBLE, LIKE VATER SHOULD STAY ON DER DUCK'S BACK!—TODAY I BRING HIM A NEW PIECE, DER VEDDING UF DER ELFS, UND YOU KNOW VOT HE SAY? "OH PERFESSOR, I'M GOING TO BE A ANIMAGATOR UND FLY OOP IN DER SKY, LIKE DIS, ZOOM!" BAH!

GENIE (HOBBS)

MEIN HERR PROFESSOR, THE LAD IS A MUSICAL PRODIGY, BUT RIGHT NOW HIS GENIUS IS DORMANT!—EGAD, I WAS THE SAME WAY MYSELF UNTIL I WAS FOURTEEN!—THEN IN SEVEN MONTHS I MASTERED THE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT THIRTY-STRING KWANG OF TURKESTAN!—THE INSTRUMENT WAS STOLEN FROM ME IN CHICAGO, AND IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET ANOTHER ONE, AS IT WAS POPULAR BEFORE THE TIME OF GENGHIS KHAN!

DORMANT GENIUS

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### OUT OUR WAY

By Williams

WELL, THROW IT OUT AND PUT IN ANOTHER, AND BE MORE CAREFUL HERE AFTER. NO WONDER MEN FAINT WHEN THEY GET A REPRIEVE JUST WHEN THEY ABOUT GET SHOT. POOR GOOSEY SPOILED THAT JOB AND WAS EXPECTIN' A BAWLIN' OUT, OR TH' CAN TIED TO HIM AND— WELL, WHEN I'M EXPECTIN' A LION T' BITE ME, I WANT HIM T' BITE ME, NOT KISS ME. CUZ YOU HAVE A TERRIBLE TIME KEEPIN' FROM THROWIN' YOURSELF INTO HIS ARMS AN' KISSIN' HIM BACK—AN I'D SOONER BE BIT

THE REPRIEVE.

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### THE BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

By Ahern

POP, EVERY TIME YOU COME INTO THIS HOUSE YOU LEAVE THE HALL LIGHT BURNING. A LOT OF HELP I GET FROM YOU IN CUTTING DOWN EXPENSES—

AND THERE'S NO NEED OF YOUR HAVING EVERY LIGHT IN THIS ROOM BURNING WHEN YOU'RE JUST SNOOZING IN FRONT OF THE FIRE!

SNAP! SNAP!

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