

A SUITOR TOO MANY

By MILDRED BARBOUR

CONCERNING THE ACTION AND CHARACTERS

LILA LATHAM becomes the bride of HERBERT, but the picture of an old sweetheart, CAPTAIN JACK, and QUAHAR, lurks in her mind. She cannot plumb to her best friend, DOROTHY, who writes that a mysterious letter awaits Lila at Dorothy's studio, which brings back memories of the war to her.

On returning from her honeymoon, she is told that a communication from the War Department is awaiting her.

In a flash, she is back in the past.

Later, in a fit of her first meeting with Captain Farquhar, she was told that Captain Farquhar, who she was going to work, comes to her.

Again, she is seen in a little French inn—this time to celebrate her marriage on the morrow to Jack—then off to the French coast, sending her telegram to the front line at Ypres.

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"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 daren't meet Gilroy Holmes face to face, especially since Jack is coming home and that's sure to run across each other."

She thought desperately of running away, as she had done that day in Vanderpoo'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.

Lila manages an explanation of this, only to have a new crisis loom.

Herbert learns of the generous gift

to the fund for disabled war veterans.

She is the son of the agent for her uncle, who was missing in memory of a soldier son. And then Dorothy, in a fit of rage, tells Lila she 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 drawing room.

A good-looking young man was bending over May Varney's hand.

SHE resolved to trust May.

"I—I know, 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 Stevens and the Granges—you're the best of friends."

"There's one other," said Lila hopefully.

"You mean—Mr. Holmes, the new man with Herbert and Jack?"

Lila nodded.

"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 bitterly. "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

on."

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 Talbot avenue and Arch street. He said he is 14.

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

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 Indiana Utilities Company.

Towns effected are Palmyra, Greenville, Galena, Crandall, Ramsey, Derapau, Marengo, Leavenworth, English and Pekin.

"Toasted English muffin and orange pekoe tea for me. . . . And oh, yes, some Shepherd's cigarettes. . . . 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?"

The two exchanged a long, level look before the experienced man-of-the-world said courteously: "I really can't say, Mrs. Hathaway. I'm expected to be in Stanton only a week or so, but my business here is holding me fast for an indefinite period."

Faith wanted to cry out at him: "And that business is Cherry! Why don't you go away and leave her alone?" She was so happy with Nils! But she said nothing, though her eyes held his steadily, until they dropped, the waiter's bringing the tea things being his excuse.

In spite of herself Faith was charmed with him, as she had been charmed before. His cultivated voice, interrupted occasionally by Cherry's delighted gibes, flowed pleasantly on until the dance music started.

She refused his gallant offer to lead her to the floor before he allowed himself the pleasure of holding Cherry in his arms, and watched the two, dark foreboding in her heart and eyes.

"Darling, I know you are dying to get home to Robin," Cherry suggested, breathlessly, as she slipped into her chair again. "Isn't Alan a divine boy?" There's really no need of you torturing yourself, honey. Alan and I are just going to kill time until Nils joins us for dinner and a show."

Alan Beardsley missed the malice of that and smiled at her with

(To Be Continued)

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

By Ahern



His face was toward Lila, but he did not see her.

Lila gave a gasp and hastened up the stairs. Her knees were unsteady.

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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 and was driven home.

Forty-five 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.

(To Be Continued)

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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.

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