

Heart of Liane

by MABEL MCLELLIOTT

BEGIN HERE TODAY
LIANE BARRATT, an actress goes with her mother to Willow Stream. Liane is playing in stock. At Willow Stream she meets CURTIS BLUE. Such a charming person I thought him.

What can he see in that hobbiey? Muriel is an extremely indiscreet young woman and I disapprove of her.

To hear the gib expressions of the scandal sheets on the correct tongue of Mrs. Cleesbaugh, Liane falls disconcerting. Liane wanted to smile but dare not.

"She's—fascinating," she ventured, avert the dashing Curtis.

"Oh, fascinating!" Mrs. Cleesbaugh's tone expressed nothing but sheer disgust. "I fail to see why that would be applied to such a flibbertygibbet."

Then she set her lips and refused to say another word.

Once and only once Liane saw Muriel flash by in her streamline car. Her gypsy scarf had been audaciously on the cheek.

"No very gracious, Eva, are you?"

She was the more sober but still dashing habitudes of town. Little brown hat. Beautifully cut tweeds. A fur scarf, the cost of which would have bought Liane's Barrett shoes for five years. Muriel threw a careless greeting at her erstwhile co-worker.

"She's forgotten me," Liane thought with a little pain at her heart. Liane wanted desperately some one who was young and frivolous in whom to confide. Muriel obviously had no time for her.

"I wonder," said Mrs. Cleesbaugh, one morning resuming the subject, "what has happened to that young newspaper man—wasn't his name Desmond?—whom Muriel was supposed to be so fond of?"

I heard Adele Ladd was terrified for fear they would elope last summer. The girl is a will-o'-the-wisp, that's certain. One would respect her more if her attractions were more permanent."

Liane had wondered, too, about Chuck Desmond. Occasionally she saw the paper in which his "Reviewing" were printed. He wrote with a bright irony which seemed to her excessively brilliant. She remembered gratefully his protection on the night the Danish electrician roughly had embraced her.

He was—rather nice," Liane said. "Was he really good? Mrs. Cleesbaugh enjoyed a good gossip. "Do tell me. I didn't know you'd ever met him."

Liane flushed.

"He came along," she said with a show of reluctance, "one night when a man at the theater was being—unpleasant."

"My dear child, that sounds terribly thrilling," said the old lady, her eyes lighting.

"Oh, it was nothing. But he was really rather knightly about it," said the young girl dimpling at the recollection.

"Well, I said at the time and I say now, Adele Ladd might've done worse with her daughter," declared Mrs. Cleesbaugh with relish. "From what one hears, Muriel would be better off safely married than she is running about the country, heaven knows where, at all hours of the day or night."

"I somehow don't think marriage would change Muriel very greatly," Liane ventured.

Liane saw little of the young man. Occasionally she had a glimpse of Clive in a turtle-necked sweater, in stained and worn brown riding breeches, galloping down the lane of a soft September morning.

He would nod to her in a friendly yet distant manner, swinging off his soft hat in salutation. She would turn through the fallen pine needles, kicking the tiny acorns with her sturdy brown shoes, thinking how fortunate she was to live in such a beautiful and luxurious world, while her mother went wandering.

Liane was saving her money now. She was living quietly and demurely. The hurly-burly, amusing life of town, of scrambled meals and hand-me-down frocks, became a sort of dim dream.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER TWELVE.

THE problem of Clive's attitude toward his mother remained for the moment unsolved. Liane went dutifully to lunch with the old lady on the day of the flapup.

Outwardly there was no ruffling of the calm waters, but the young girl sensed a resentment so deep her patron could not keep herself to speak of it. And yet, Liane thought, Clive had been in the right. His mother had spoken to him as he were the veriest schoolboy.

"She's kind," reflected the young girl shrewdly, "but she must have her own way." Perhaps Clive had been letting her have it for years in matters large and small and now, at 24, was coming to see that he could bear this state of affairs no longer.

"It doesn't matter to me," thought Liane rather wistfully. "I'm her guest, her protege, and naturally I must respect all her wishes. But for a man grown to knuckle under and do exactly as she commands him—that would be shameful."

Yes, Liane respected Clive more now that she had seen him "stand up" to his mother.

If Mrs. Cleesbaugh's white head was held a trifle higher, if her tone that day, addressing the maids, grew sharper and more autocratic, her manner toward Liane at least was not affected.

"I like her, but I see through her, too," thought Liane with affectionate amusement. She was a very proud old woman. She was what the girls at the convent had called "bossy."

Bossiness generally went to the head. The more one's underlings submitted to dictates the more one ordered them around.

"That boy's no fool," decided Liane, thinking of Clive, and wondered why Elsie had thought he was. "He has a backbone." She liked him the better for it.

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SOMETIMES at night when she had gone to bed early and could not sleep she would shut her eyes to keep out the pictures that came to her. Sheane McDermid, big in his blue uniform, his eyes shining sternly at her. Van Robard in his dinner clothes, bending over her hand. No, she would not think of Van!

She had heard Clive say over the hall telephone one day, "Van?" Oh, he's at Burlington, I believe. Be back about Christmas time."

Nor did she catch glimpses of Muriel any more. Mrs. Cleesbaugh "thoroughly disapproved" of Muriel Ladd.

"Have you heard," she asked Liane in a shocked voice, "of her shining eyes, deep and long

HORIZONTAL

1 Who is the head of the submarine expedition to the North Pole? 23 Commander.

8 Only state to show a decrease in population during last 10 years. 24 Rhythical swings.

15 To estrange. 25 Mortage. 26 Road. 27 Minor note. 28 Satan. 30 Inlet. 31 Privation. 32 Servo-motor. 33 Senior. 35 Abolishes. 36 Absolutes. 38 Valley bottom. 40 Credit. 41 At no time. 42 Fodder vat. 45 Fowl. 47 To repulse.

18 Intellectual. 22 Deepens a river by machinary. 20 Sprinkles. 2 Famous Greek 20 Prevents waste. 20 Second note.

24 Commander. 24 Rhythical swings.

27 Mortage. 29 Pertaining to the gull family. 31 Pound. 32 To divide. 34 New Haven is the seat of University? 36 Sandy. 37 Leaf of the cayx.

39 Toward. 40 Famous pianist and composer. 43 Cotton fiber. 44 Lock opener. 45 Within. 46 Hub. 7 To endure. 9 Exclamation. 10 To how. 11 Weight allow- ance. 12 Coat of mail. 13 To furnish nu- triment. 14 Balance over- due. 16 To come in. 20 Prevents waste. 20 Second note.

49 Northeast. 50 Translated. 51 Burden. 53 Small valley. 55 Golf teacher. 56 Ottoman court. 58 Smooth. 59 Ireland. 60 Emanates. 62 Eruption. 64 Sewing imple- ments. 65 Deepens a river by machinary. 14 Balance over- due. 16 To come in. 20 Prevents waste. 20 Second note.

21 To hesitate. 22 To devour. 23 Intellectual. 25 Ripped. 26 Road. 27 Minor note. 28 Satan. 30 Inlet. 31 Privation. 32 Servo-motor. 33 Senior. 36 Absolutes. 38 Valley bottom. 40 Credit. 41 At no time. 42 Fodder vat. 45 Fowl. 47 To repulse.

19 Emu. 20 Solar. 21 Markers. 22 Hog. 23 Yarp. 24 Trend. 25 ABA. 26 Got. 27 Long. 28 Swelter. 29 Par. 30 Bad. 31 Rep. 32 Tilt. 33 Read. 34 Haven. 35 Nine. 36 Matt. 37 Litteral. 38 Rid. 39 Tibilal.

40 Commander. 41 Heart. 42 Pure. 43 Markers. 44 Beg. 45 Out. 46 ABA. 47 Got. 48 Long. 49 Trend. 50 Tilt. 51 Hare. 52 Read. 53 Nine. 54 Sandy. 55 Climb. 56 High. 57 Rock. 58 Some. 59 Here.

60 H-E. 61 M-A. 62 G-O. 63 N-I. 64 R-E. 65 T-H. 66 C-O. 67 S-U. 68 D-E. 69 R-A. 70 L-I. 71 T-H. 72 C-O. 73 S-U. 74 D-E. 75 R-A. 76 L-I. 77 T-H. 78 C-O. 79 S-U. 80 D-E. 81 R-A. 82 L-I. 83 T-H. 84 C-O. 85 S-U. 86 D-E. 87 R-A. 88 L-I. 89 T-H. 90 C-O. 91 S-U. 92 D-E. 93 R-A. 94 L-I. 95 T-H. 96 C-O. 97 S-U. 98 D-E. 99 R-A. 100 L-I. 101 T-H. 102 C-O. 103 S-U. 104 D-E. 105 R-A. 106 L-I. 107 T-H. 108 C-O. 109 S-U. 110 D-E. 111 R-A. 112 L-I. 113 T-H. 114 C-O. 115 S-U. 116 D-E. 117 R-A. 118 L-I. 119 T-H. 120 C-O. 121 S-U. 122 D-E. 123 R-A. 124 L-I. 125 T-H. 126 C-O. 127 S-U. 128 D-E. 129 R-A. 130 L-I. 131 T-H. 132 C-O. 133 S-U. 134 D-E. 135 R-A. 136 L-I. 137 T-H. 138 C-O. 139 S-U. 140 D-E. 141 R-A. 142 L-I. 143 T-H. 144 C-O. 145 S-U. 146 D-E. 147 R-A. 148 L-I. 149 T-H. 150 C-O. 151 S-U. 152 D-E. 153 R-A. 154 L-I. 155 T-H. 156 C-O. 157 S-U. 158 D-E. 159 R-A. 160 L-I. 161 T-H. 162 C-O. 163 S-U. 164 D-E. 165 R-A. 166 L-I. 167 T-H. 168 C-O. 169 S-U. 170 D-E. 171 R-A. 172 L-I. 173 T-H. 174 C-O. 175 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