

GUILTY LIPS

by LAURA LOU BROOKMAN Author of "MAD MARRIAGE" ©1931 BY NEA SERVICE INC.

BEGIN HERE TODAY

MARK TRAVERS, 20-year-old, law office, son of a millionaire, real estate dealer, after the father had sworn to cut Mark out without a penny if the marriage takes place.

Norman has known Mark only a few weeks and did not know during the courtship that he was a millionaire's son.

The story opens in Marlboro, middle of the night. CHRISTINA SAUNDERS, with whom Norman shares an apartment, and BRADLEY HART, Christina's employer, are witnesses at the wedding.

Before this, Norman has refused to marry BOB FARRELL, young lawyer of whom she is fond as a friend.

Mark tells his expensive roadster to get money for the honeymoon. He and Norma go to fashionable Blue Springs, where the young man takes delight in surrounding his bride with expensive luxuries.

After Norman Mark introduces Norma to HOLLY STONE, an old friend. It is evident from the girl's discomposure that she has known Stone before. She excuses herself and goes to her room.

She endures a suspense and misery, but when she sees Stone again she realizes her previous acquaintance.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN (Continued)

PERHAPS the girl was envious because Halloran and the other golfers had kept Mark from her for two entire half days. At any rate, as the luncheon progressed, she decided she did not like Clint Halloran.

Mark, on the contrary, seemed to find him most companionable. Halloran knew friends of Mark's, had been at school with Ted Patterson, who, said Mark, was his closest friend. It seemed odd that Norma never had heard Patterson's name mentioned before.

The two men left golf to talk of other individuals who were unknown to her. As they talked, even Mark seemed almost a stranger, she was discussing school pranks, sporting events, places and people who meant nothing to Norma.

They were all familiar enough to Clint Halloran. Both men laughed frequently. Oh, they were having a great time!

Their table was the one Mark and Norma favored regularly—at the side of the dining room, near the right wall. Sunlight and air reached them from south as well as east windows. Mark's chair stood so that his back was toward the center of the room.

A shadow hovered over the table for an instant. Norma raised her eyes, nodded.

"Who was that who just passed?" Mark wanted to know.

The girl's lids fluttered faintly. "Mr. Stone," she said. "He's just come in to lunch."

Halloran turned his head. "Stone?" he repeated. "Don't believe I've met him."

"He's from Marlboro," Mark explained. "Holly Stone. Relative of mine in a way, but we don't see much of him. What was that you were saying about Agua Caliente?"

Norma did not hear the rest. Was Holly Stone keeping a watch over everything she did? Until the end of the meal she was preoccupied.

AFTER Halloran left them, Mark and Norma went outside to linger in the large afternoon sun. It was the hour when the inn was at its quietest. Those with plans for an active afternoon had disappeared. Others were reading or resting.

Norma's discordant mood vanished. With Mark beside her everything was as it should be.

"Feel like strolling over town?" he asked. "There's nothing to do around here."

Norma agreed. As she swung into step beside him she said, "You know, Mark, we've been married almost two weeks and you haven't really told me about your family."

"Those people you were talking about to Mr. Halloran were all strangers to me. All I know is that you have a mother and father and a sister."

"Well, you married me—not the family. Oh, they're all right as families go. I suppose! What is there to tell you about 'em?"

"Tell me about your mother."

Three fine creases appeared between Mark's eyes. "I thought I'd have a letter from her by this time," he admitted. "Can't you—"

stand it. Mother's always been a good scout about coming through with the old cash roll when it would do the most good.

"Fact is, I've been expecting a check ever since I telegraphed we were here. Maybe it'll come in the late mail today."

There was a pause.

"Do you suppose it's because of me you haven't heard from her?" Norma asked slowly. "I mean getting married in a hurry—"

"Well, what of that? Had the right to get married if we wanted to, didn't we? Oh, I suppose Dad bowed up and said a lot to give Mother the wrong impression, but she ought to get over that. He will, all right."

It was almost the first time they had discussed Mark's father's opposition to their marriage. Always before the father had scoffed at Norma's concern.

"You haven't told me what your mother looks like," she reminded him. "You're like your father, aren't you?"

The young man grimaced. "In looks! Alicia's like mother." (She knew Alicia was his sister.) "Not tall, but taller than you are. Mother has gray eyes and her hair used to be almost black. Its gray now. 'She fusses a lot because she's lost her girlish figure. Tries to diet, but she never does. She's terribly proud that she used to be a Randolph and raves about the way the young set carries on. Just the same she's a good scout. You'll be crazy about mother.'"

"Oh, of course." But what is she going to think about me? she girl was wondering.

MARK told her how excited his mother had been over Alicia's marriage two years before. Alicia lived abroad and her husband boasted a title. He was Count Jules de Lautrec, a Frenchman.

The count and countess lived in a historic chateau where the plumbing and heating equipment were almost as antique and uncomfortable as the much-admired furnishings. Alicia was two years older than Mark.

"That's another thing that burns me up!" he grumbled. "When Alicia and Jules were married, dad turned over \$250,000 in cold cash for what they call a dowry, \$250,000! Say—that wouldn't we do with that?"

"It's because dowries are the custom in Europe," Norma told him. "And your parents must have liked the count. You know what your father thought about me! It's because of me they feel the way they do."

"That's no reason at all! They don't even know you."

"But they know I worked for my living. And I haven't any family. They know that much."

"Well, we won't argue about it. Let's go back and see if the mail has come."

They turned back. The clerk at the inn reported there was nothing for Mr. or Mrs. Travers.

FOR the next three days Mark spent a good share of his time on the golf links. He was brooding and moody. Something seemed to worry him. Could it be about money?

Mark had had more than \$1,400 when he came to Blue Springs two weeks ago. Everything was expensive here, but \$1,400—I couldn't possibly be gone!

She tried to question him about this, found him impatient, even cross.

Thursday night they did not join the dancers after dinner. Mark had been on the links with Halloran all afternoon. He said something about a "little game with the boys."

"You don't mind, darling?" he inquired as an afterthought. "Not in the least."

How he did mind later when, alone, she looked out on the moon-drenched lawn and heard the melancholy, sighing wind! She was in their rooms. Too proud to let others know she was spending the evening

HORIZONTAL

- 1 Pertaining to punishment.
- 5 Compounded.
- 13 Last word of a prayer.
- 14 Large shield protecting the whole body.
- 15 Egg-shaped.
- 16 Pussy.
- 17 Valued.
- 19 Constellation.
- 20 Within.
- 21 Sun personified.
- 22 Call for help at sea.
- 24 Upon.
- 25 Fashion.
- 27 By.
- 28 Biscuits.
- 30 Paragraph in a newspaper.
- 32 Follower.
- 35 Goddess of growing vegetation.
- 37 Container.
- 38 Squandered.
- 40 Excess of gratification.
- 43 Tales of sea adventures.

VERTICAL

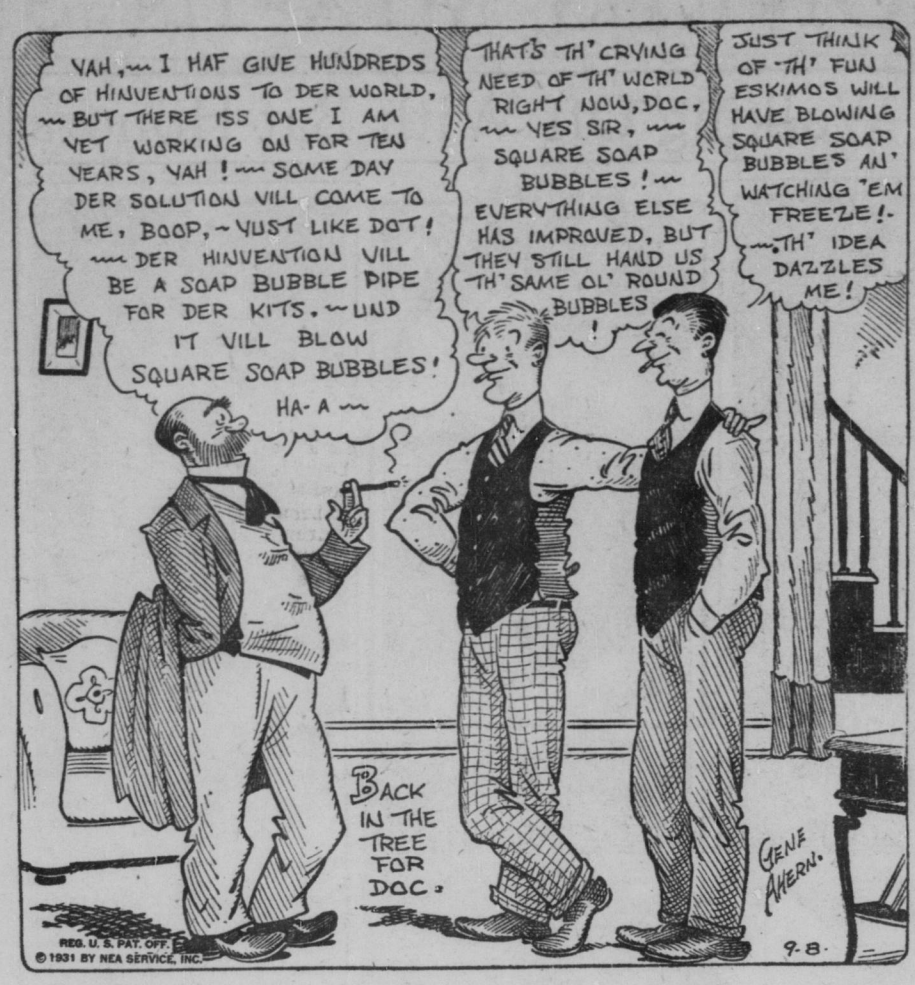
- 2 Tanner's vessel.
- 4 Not bright.
- 6 Spanish (Abbr.).
- 8 To permit.
- 10 To provide food.
- 12 Seventh note.
- 14 Varnish.
- 16 Denoting the king's council.
- 18 To free.
- 20 Grandparental.
- 22 Inn.
- 24 Skin of a fruit.
- 26 Layers of animal tissue.
- 28 Fuddled.
- 30 In what ocean does Japan lie?
- 32 Originates.
- 34 Mesh of lace.
- 36 Variant of "a."
- 38 Flood gates.
- 40 Kila.
- 42 Denoting the middle part.
- 44 Postscript.
- 46 Therefore.
- 48 Yellow bugle plant.
- 50 Hawaiian rootstock.
- 52 Antipathies.
- 54 Vampire.
- 56 Fearfully.
- 58 Social insect.
- 60 Inherent.
- 62 The religion of Mohammedans.
- 64 To lay a street.
- 66 Kila.
- 68 Eccentric wheel.
- 70 Was victor.
- 72 Corded fabric.
- 74 Pound.
- 76 Exclamation of laughter.
- 78 13416.

Answers for Yesterday

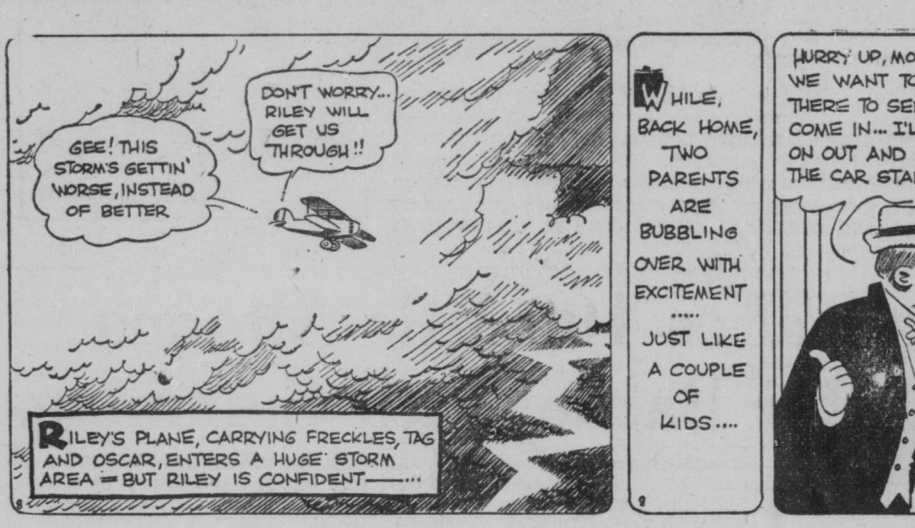
WITH HIGH IDEALS FOR HEARTS AND HANDS. THESE LADIES SAILED FOR DISTANT LANDS.

The words in heavy letters are the three missing words, each composed of the same six letters.

OUR BOARDING HOUSE



FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



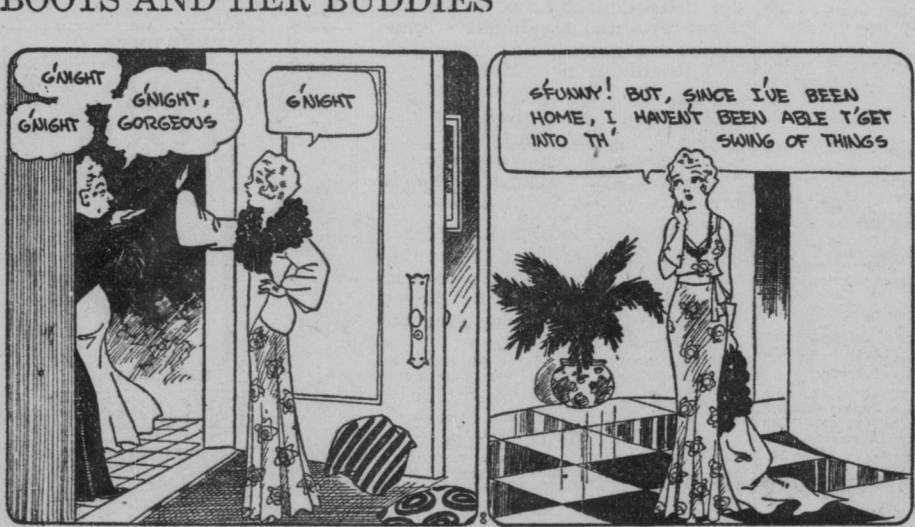
WASHINGTON TUBBS II



SALESMAN SAM



BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



TARZAN, LORD OF THE JUNGLE



OUT OUR WAY



By Williams

By Blosser

By Crane

By Small

By Martin

By Edgar Rice Burroughs