

for LOVE or MONEY

H.W. CORLEY
FICTION
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BEGIN HERE TODAY
MONA TOWNSEND, beautiful young widow, inherits her husband's millions with the proviso that she must not remarry.

Her marriage, arranged by her husband's employer, was a strange affair, leaving her free at the end of a year to become her husband's wife again.

Divorce, however, is in love with Townsend's nephew, BARRY TOWNSEND, agreed to the marriage when she thought Barry was dead.

She employs LOTTIE CARE, a fashion model, as her secretary-companion and has set up a home in a villa where Barry and STEVE SACCARELLI are.

Mona's brother BUD is at the mine. Mona hopes for a reconciliation with Barry. She also wants BUD entitled to a share of his uncle's fortune and wants to find a way to arrange his return.

Learning that Barry and Steve are on vacation at Holiday Island the girls leave for the villa.

There, quite by accident, they meet Bud, who agrees to take them to Holiday Island next day. Mona, alone, drives to Port Fonda.

Mona and Bud then go to a strange inn.

Now GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE

BUD faced Mona in amazement. It was clear his surprise held dismay as well.

Instantly Mona was alert. Was Bud selling those diamonds? Was the man whose quick movement had concealed the gems at her entrance buying them? Had Bud the right to sell them, and if so, why was the transaction in this out-of-the-way spot?

"Mona, I didn't dream you'd come here!"

The girl laughed uneasily. "Oh, I was just seeing the sights." She waved her hand toward the tables. "My chauffeur brought me here for tea. It's delightful, isn't it?"

"I'll order for you." Bud summoned the maître d'hôtel, who took the order and swiftly bowed himself away.

Mona sat in a large rattan chaise longue at the railing of the open room overlooking a broad expanse of green and riotous color.

Her eyes, skirting the road, discovered no other conveyance except her own. How had Bud come?

"Don't let me interrupt your business," she urged.

Bud laughed and instantly the girl knew that her first conclusion had been erroneous. There was no guilt on Bud's face, only a look of amusement.

"Well," he said, "you're certainly caught me!" He took up the white cloth and the gems glittered. "You see," Bud explained, "I sold these

for the firm to Mr. Horton here. Mr. Horton, my sister, Mrs. Townsend."

The stranger bowed. "And now the young man is buying the finest of them back again," he said. "He tells me he's buying it for his mother, but I am wondering: Young men don't usually buy diamonds for their mothers."

"I thought she'd like a diamond I'd had something to do with," Bud told Mona, with a half-ashamed smile. "She's never had a diamond, she's never had a diamond."

He was concerned so obviously at this oversight on the part of his affectionate children that Mona smiled.

"I guess," Bud went on, "you've given her everything else, though."

Mona shook her head. "I completely forgot diamonds."

Holiday wavered and then approached, displaying a large white house. A group of huts, long stretches of beach, silveryed by the sun and fringed by palm trees.

There was a turquoise bay, held in the cup of green hills. A yacht shimmered and bobbed in the sunlight.

The plane crossed the harbor, dipped close to the trees and went steadily on toward a broad expanse of green.

"A golf course!" cried Lottie.

"Yes, a golf course. These fellows believe in having all the comforts of home."

They took leave of Mr. Horton and presently were speeding toward Port of Spain. "I'd like to do something for you too, Mona," Bud said gruffly. "You put up with a lot from me!"

She squeezed his hand affectionately. "Just take me to Holiday," she said. "That's all I want."

They set out the next morning for the island.

"One hour!" Lottie cried happily.

"Oh, what difference just one hour can make!"

"Yeah," grinned Bud, helping her into the cockpit. "Want a helmet?"

"Got one?"

"Here we go!"

The plane lifted and shot into the air. It spiraled upward. Port of Spain fell away from them into the sea.

The plane headed north and presently they passed Trinidad. Other islands lay ahead, curving like a

"Aye, aye, sir."

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