

The Middle Ground
By MARION RUBINCAMTHE FAITHFUL DICK
Chapter 49

The mother really did not know what it was she was asking, she was suddenly too terrified to think. What was in Jane's mind? Or rather, what was in her heart? How had a daughter of such a mild mother and strict father developed such amazing ideas? Jane had turned away, her profile toward her mother. She smiled a little.

"I haven't done anything you would disapprove of, mother," she answered, and the little woman on the couch felt tons of weight drop off her heart at the words.

"But—I don't know what I might do. As I say, after all, it's my life, to be lived the best way I can. I want love, I need it, everybody does. I don't think, after all, that it would be so wicked—" her voice trailed off into nothing.

Mrs. Talbot sat on the sofa without moving for many minutes, watching the girl, and trying to comprehend this new side of her nature. She was genuinely terrified, so much so that her very brain felt hot.

Here was a climax, at least, a climax was approaching. She had to act, and soon. What was she to do?

Meantime she stared at Jane. The girl, after looking into space for a moment, returned to her book and began studying, apparently thinking her mother's silence meant the discussion was at an end. Mrs. Talbot looked at her with new eyes.

Jane was 25. At that age every girl in the farm neighborhood was married and had children or considered definitely on the shelf. At 25 their figures were already growing matronly, or what was worse, were sagging and growing shapeless.

She looked at Jane's straight, light brown hair, neatly, simply, unconsciously combed; at her clear decisive features, her large brown eyes that held such fire and intelligence, her firmly closed mouth and resolute chin. Jane was very attractive in her own way—to certain types of men. She would dare anything, do anything. She would look straight ahead with those fine eyes of hers and decide what was best to be done regardless of tradition and convention.

She would think she was ruled by her intelligence, but as a matter of fact, heart led head. There was a certain fullness in her lips that evidenced a strong emotional nature. Jane had a very lovely mouth.

The girl felt her mother's gaze, and put down her book.

"You must know Donald better," she said. "You can't possibly understand if you don't know him. But you terrify him, he's afraid to come around."

The mother made a supreme effort.

"Have him for dinner some night—I won't—I'll be as nice as I can."

This pleased the girl, who felt that she had won a slight victory. But Mrs. Talbot only felt that the climax was that much nearer.

Then Jane hinted at such strange things—of troubles between Claire and Luther that she did not know of, of plans on Amy's part that had not been told to her. She must find out what was in her children's minds.

She must begin all over again to study her own children!

She welcomed Dick that evening with a feeling of huge relief. Dick was so safe and so sane! He had none of the mad, fly-away ideas entertained by these others.

Amy was home that evening. Mrs. Talbot tried to think of excuses to leave the two alone, but for some reason, Amy was most anxious to make her stay.

"Your room is entirely too cold; you can sit here and read and we won't bother you," was the way the girl settled it. "Dickie and I will make sandwiches by and by."

Dick smiled with pleasure. There was nothing he liked better than to help Amy make refreshments for the little parties she had.

"We'll make them now. I want a lot, I'm hungry," he said, thinking to have Amy all to himself in the kitchen. But the clever girl avoided this trap.

"Mother must come and make mayonnaise," she insisted. "I'm going to have lettuce sandwiches."

But Dick stood even this with a pleasant mind. If he could not woo his lady alone, he would do it before an audience.

"I like to see you tie that apron on," he observed, while Amy pulled a white apron over her frock. "You look so domestic then. I can almost imagine that you're my wife."

"Do you want your wife to do the cooking for you?" Amy asked, her voice quite cool and even. Dick sensed danger.

"No, she won't have to. But once

Heart Problems

Dear Mrs. Thompson: Can you tell me what I should eat to gain flesh? I don't want to be fat like a toothpick holder, and I do not want to continue to look like the toothpick as I do now.

ANXIOUS.

To gain flesh, take plenty of olive oil, eat eggs, butter, cereals and fatty broths, potatoes, peas, beans, corn, carrots and parsnips, figs, dates, bananas, underdone beefsteak and roast beef.

Drink plenty of milk, cream and coco.

Avoid food that will not digest easily, and be careful to masticate thoroughly when you eat.

Give up pickles, vinegar and all acids.

Exercise freely in the open air, and take plenty of sleep.

Don't fret or worry; this will keep one thin more than anything else. Cultivate an easy-going disposition, if you possibly can.



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in awhile it would be fun. Amy, you would make sandwiches for me sometimes, wouldn't you, after we are married?"

"How deadly dull and unexciting you are," Amy retorted crossly. "If making sandwiches in a kitchen on the maid's night out is your idea of domestic bliss—well, it differs from my idea."

Dick looked somewhat disengaged as he began buttering bread for her.

Tomorrow—"Ambitions."

Beauty Chats
By Edna Kent Forbes

ANSWERED LETTERS

Interested Reader:—If you have auburn hair you have a tendency towards freckles that you will find hard, if not impossible, to cure. Freckles are supposed to come from iron in the blood. The action of the sun is to draw little deposits of pigment to the surface, which show up as freckles. The face is shaded, not so many freckles will appear, therefore wearing wide-brimmed hats with a dark lining is advisable in the summer time.

A splendid shampoo for auburn hair is made by mixing one ounce of henna with three ounces of powdered castile soap. About a heaping tablespoonful of this is used for every shampoo. This is lathered on the scalp and allowed to remain about 15 minutes, then rinsed off thoroughly. If your hair is oily, it will be improved by being shaken out and given sun baths occasionally. The girl fortunate enough to possess auburn hair must be unusually careful in her choice of colors. She will look wonderful in black satin and velvet, in French blue or rose pink, soft greens and rich shades of brown. She must never wear any ordinary color. Pearl gray or lavender will also look well on her.

Axious 14:—A 14-year-old girl 5 ft. 4 1/2 in. should weigh about 120 pounds according to the tables of weights given out by the insurance companies. As a matter of fact she can weigh ten pounds under that and be healthy. Do not worry if the bust is too large, girls of your age are often over-developed. When you are older the bust will undoubtedly be in proportion with the rest of the body.

L. A. E.:—Many hairdressing parlors buy hair to make up switches. If not they would know firms that purchased human hair.

Blue Eyes:—A girl 16 years 5 ft. 2 in. should weigh about 117 pounds, a girl of 14 years 5 ft. 5 in. about 122 pounds.

James C.:—Have the following hair tonic formula made up, and massage it thoroughly into your scalp three times a week. It will keep the hair from falling out:

Pilocarpine hydrochlorate, 2 grains Precipitated sulphur, 30 grains Crocus lily, 30 drops Castor oil, 10 drops Alcohol (95 per cent) 4 ounces Tr. Cantharides, 4 drams Farina cologne, 4 drams Rose water, to make 8 ounces

This is a fairly expensive tonic, because pilocarpine is an expensive drug but pilocarpine is particularly to improve the color of the hair. If you can have this made up just as it is but without the pilocarpine, and it will be as effective in keeping the hair from falling out.

Grey Eyes:—Deep breathing will, of course, help any one suffering from tuberculosis. Any one with this trouble should be under the care of a doctor, should live outdoors almost the entire 24 hours of the day and should be fed with a great deal of very nourishing food, particularly eggs and milk.

Tomorrow—Brush the Hair Glossy.

All inquiries addressed to Mrs. Forbes in care of the "Beauty Chats" department will be answered in these columns in due turn. This requires considerable time, however, owing to the great number received. So, if a personal or quicker reply is desired, a postcard and self-addressed envelope must be enclosed with the question.

The Editor.

Rev. Work Will Preach
On "Adoration" Tonight

"Adoration" will be the subject upon which Rev. W. McClelan will talk at the First Presbyterian Church Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The service will be the first of combined services of the First Presbyterian and Reid Memorial United Presbyterian churches. The services will be alternated between the two churches beginning on Tuesday night and ending Friday night in the Reid Memorial Church.

The services will be in recognition of the "Week of Prayer" which is from Jan. 1 to 8.

BURCH TRIAL RESUMED
(By Associated Press)

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3.—The trial of Arthur C. Burch, accused of the murder of J. Belton Kennedy, entered its seventh week today with the prosecution prepared to continue presentation of rebuttal evidence in connection with the defense's plea of insanity.

CUT THIS OUT—it is worth money. Cut out this slip, enclose with 10 cent postage and mail it to Foley & Co., 2825 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tonic Compound for coughs, colds and croup; Foley's Jardine's Lotion, patent liniment and back, rheumatism, backache, kidney and bladder ailments; Foley's Catarrhic Tablets, a wholesome and nutritious medicine for constipation, biliousness, headaches, and sluggish bowels. A. G. Lukens Drug Co., 626-28 Main St.—Advertisement.

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What Color is Your Life?
By FREDERICK J. HASKIN

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—That a large percentage of divorce is due to too much red in the nuptial home, and that crime would decrease if the streets were lighted with yellow-green lights, is the claim of the most recent professor to come forward with a new set of theories about color and the effect it has upon our lives.

Conservatives will doubtless say that the professor claims too much, and perhaps he does, but the part that

color plays in the daily life of everyone has never been properly understood by most persons. In fact, most men pay no conscious attention to color at all, while most women are concerned about choosing those colors which harmonize with hair and eyes.

Tell the average man that the red color on his library table is injuring his nerves and he will laugh at you. Yet it is possible to give him scientific proof of the fact. Red has been shown

by many experiments to stimulate the heart action just as surely as a drug and to be a powerful nerve stimulant as well. Orange, yellow, violet and purple also are stimulating colors.

Blue is a soothng color and in large quantities even a depressing one.

Green is perhaps the most wholesome

colors which are in nature used in large masses are green and blue. If the sky were to turn bright red and the leaves and the grass bright yellow it is probable that we would all go crazy.

Many interesting reflections are suggested by the use of color in nature. It is strikingly noticeable that in brightly sunlit countries, like our own southwest, where all colors are more brilliant, where the sunsets are intensely colorful, and where sunlight and distance work queer color effects, nearly every one feels an acute nervous stimulus, amounting in cases to a sense of exaltation. On the other hand, cloudy, rainy countries, where a shrouded green mixed with gray predominates, like the British Isles, for instance, are noted for the production of healthy, somewhat stodgy people. The difference between persons of the same blood and race living in Arizona and Scotland are very noticeable. Just how much of this difference is due to color it would be hard to say, but it seems probable that color accounts for a part of it.

It has long been a mysterious but well known fact that all migrations and great movements of people generally have been westward. May not the flaring reds and yellows of the sunset sky in the west have something to do with this?

Whatever such speculation may be

a factor worth taking into account in forming judgments of persons.

Some persons, of course, are endowed by nature with strong primary colors. It is interesting to note in this connection that red-haired girls are traditionally the most stimulating and exciting of all, their nearest rivals being the bright yellow blondes, while the girl with the blue-black hair is the most serene and unexciting of all. These facts have usually been interpreted on basis of race, but race enters into the situation less and less as hair color becomes more and more a beauty parlor product.

It is not of record that titan-haired damsels produced by the henna process are less exciting to flirt with than those endowed with red hair by their Creator, while peroxide blondes are certainly no less disturbers of the

peace than natural ones. It is probable that a reasonably susceptible male placed opposite a beautiful red-haired girl under a bright light, is an almost inevitable victim of physiological circumstances. After a certain length of time his blood pressure and temperature will rise, his nerves will begin to tingle, and he will be thrown into a condition in which he is more than likely to do something rash.

The dark-haired girl must labor under something of a handicap, but it is very noticeable that she often seeks to overcome it by the addition of a red rose or a red ribbon to her costume.

The speculative possibilities of the subject are almost inexhaustable, but there is not much about it which may be set down as certain, beyond this: If your nerves are on edge, as are those of most Americans, avoid red and yellow and court green and blue.

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