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STRATEGY OF A WIDOW

By GEORGE MUNSON.

"That Miss Elsie Davis is a charming girl and I congratulate you highly, Mr. Norton," said Mrs. Benton. "But what a pity that she seems so jealous."

Warren Norton flushed deeply. He resented Mrs. Benton's words, but he knew that they were true.

Elsie and her mother were summering at the Glen Pass hotel, and Warren Norton was spending his vacation there.

That evening Mrs. Benton made overtures to Elsie, who had regarded her with sullen aversion from the moment of their introduction. However, the accomplished woman of the world soon managed to thaw the heart of the undisciplined, inexperienced girl.

"Yes, Warren is a dear boy," she said, "but like most men, I am afraid."

"What do you mean by that?" demanded Elsie, flying to arms at once on John's behalf.

"I mean, dear, that a pretty face would turn his head. A man's heart may be loyal, but the best of them cannot resist passing attraction."

"It is not true!" cried Elsie, turning scarlet.

"Unfortunately it is true, my dear," replied the widow, laying one hand caressingly upon her arm. "It is only too true, and I can prove it to you."

"How?" demanded Elsie.

"By bringing your Warren to my feet within two days," Mrs. Benton answered.

"You can't do it," cried Elsie scornfully. "But I will let you try, Mrs. Benton, and, if you succeed, I will have nothing more to do with Warren."

The next few days were wretched ones for Elsie. True, Mrs. Benton did not succeed within the period that she had allotted herself, but it was evident that Warren was strongly infatuated with her. There were angry scenes between the engaged couple. To Elsie's astonishment Warren, who had always been so penitent and self-exculpatory on former occasions, now appeared brazen.

"Elsie, Mrs. Benton is the sister of John Benton in the Philippines," he said. "I have told you often how John is my best friend. We have not seen each other for years, and it is natural that I should like his sister. Come, be friendly with her, Elsie, and let us all be happy together."

"O, I hate her and I hate you!" exclaimed the jealous girl; and, pulling off her ring, she flung it upon the table.

Elsie was not the type of girl who dominates over her mother. The elder woman had seen how things were going; perhaps she thought that Warren was giving Elsie a lesson, for she offered no consolation when Elsie announced that the engagement was broken off and that they would start home on the morrow.

Elsie did not go down to dinner that night. But afterwards a feverish desire to see Warren again forced her to dress and go downstairs. She knew he was with that odious Benton woman, and she could not go away without torturing herself by seeing them together.

Poor Elsie reached the veranda just in time to see the couple disappearing together along the most secluded of the many beautiful walks of the Glen Pass. They were walking slowly side by side, and it was evident they did not dream that Elsie was anywhere near them.

At the end of the walk was a hedge of box, round which the road wound into a pretty little summer house. Taking her stand behind the hedge, Elsie heard the conversation.

"Poor Elsie!" said Warren in a low voice.

"Poor Elsie!" said Mrs. Benton in a very meaning one, and Elsie, standing behind the hedge, set her teeth hard. To be pitied was the last thing that she could endure.

"I feel guilty of disloyalty to her in having permitted you to plan this, Mrs. Benton," said Warren.

"My dear boy, it is the best thing in the world for her," replied the elder woman. "A sharp lesson was necessary, and as the sister of your best friend, I feel that it is my duty to give her that lesson."

"She thinks I am in love with you," said Warren.

Mrs. Benton laughed merrily. "When my fiance, Mr. Boyd, arrives tomorrow she will be undeceived," she said. "Now, Warren, a word of advice. I am going to tell her that it was all a plan of mine in order to bring her to reason and cure her absurd jealousy. You stay there till I come back, and I shall bring her with me.'

And she stepped off along another path toward the hotel, while Elsie heard herself sob in the darkness.

What a fool she had been! She saw it now, she remembered all Warren's misery in the past, caused by her doubts of him. She was not worthy of him. She—she—

Suddenly she felt two arms about her. Very miserably she raised her head. Warren stood beside her.

"Elsie! You heard?" he cried.

"O, what a fool I have been!" she said. "What a wretched jealous fool. I deserved this, Warren, to teach me to trust the man I love. Do you really love me, Warren?"

Warren slipped the ring on her finger again. And in the consciousness of their new-born trust they were so absorbed in each other that kindly Mrs. Benton, approaching in the darkness, took a by-path back to the hotel instead.

(Copyright, by W. G. Chapman.)

PUBLIC SALE

Tuesday, November 16, 1915

AT 10 O'CLOCK SHARP

Having rented my farm, the undersigned will sell at Public Auction on her farm 4 miles south and 4½ west of Red Cloud, and 4 miles south and 2 east of Inavale, the following property:

48 Head of Stock

Described As Follows:

9 HORSES AND MULES

1 team bay geldings coming 5 and 7 years old, wt 2600; 1 black driving mare coming 7 yrs old, wt 1150; 1 span mules coming 5 and 6 years old, wt 2250; 1 bay mare in foal to Jack, wt 1300; 1 suckling mule; 1 span 2 year old black mare mules, well broke, wt 2100.

18 HEAD OF CATTLE

6 milch cows, 3 fresh soon; 6 coming 3 year old heifers, fresh soon; 1 Short Horn bull 2 years old; 7 coming yearling steers; 3 coming yearling heifers.

21 HEAD OF HOGS

18 Shoats from 100 to 150 lbs; 2 Duroc Jersey sows, one sow with pigs; 1 boar. These are fine hogs and fa .

FARM MACHINERY, ETC.

1 Deering corn binder, nearly new; 1 Deering hay rake; 1 Rock Island corn disk, new; 1 John Deere corn disk, good as new; 1 John Deere lister; 1 Rock Island lister; 2 disk pulverizers; 1 single row riding cultivator; 1 walking cultivator; 1 John Deere corn planter, good; 1 John Deere 3 section harrow; 1 walking plow; 1 top buggy; 1 spring wagon; 1 wagon; 1 rack and wagon; 1 grind stone; 1 Sharpless separator, almost new; 1 set 1½-in harness; 3 sets of 1¼-in harness, one set new; 6 to 8 tons fine prairie hay; cane and other feed and numerous other articles. Lunch served by Mt. Pleasant Aid

TERMS OF SALE—A credit of 6 months time will be given on all sums over $10, purchaser giving note and approved security with interest at 10 per cent. $10 and under cash. No property removed until settled for.

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Sunday, November 14th

The Holy Spirit

(Morning Subject)

Is Eternal Punishment Just?

(Subject Sunday Evening)

SPECIAL MUSIC--A CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL

The United Church

J. L. Beebe, Pastor 1st Door South of Court House

Mail Order House Ten Commandments

1. You shall sell your farm products for cash whenever you can, but not to us; we do not buy from you.

2. You shall believe our statements and buy all you need from us because we want to be good to you, though we are not personally acquainted with you.

3. You shall send the money in advance to give us a chance to get the goods from the factory with your money; meanwhile you will have to wait patiently a few weeks as that is our business method.

4. You shall apply to your nearest city to aid you in building good roads so you can conveniently get the goods from the depot for we do not build country roads.

5. You shall buy church bells and church fixtures from us and forward the money in advance, for this is our business method, and you shall collect from the business men of your vicinity all the money you can for the benefit of your churches, as it is against our rules to donate for building country churches.

6. You shall buy your tools of us and be your own mechanic in order to drive the mechanics out of your vicinity, for we wish it so.

7. You shall induce your neighbor to buy everything of us, as we have room for more money—the less money there is in your community the sooner we can put your local merchants out of business and charge you any price we please.

8. You shall look often at the beautiful pictures in our catalogue so your wishes will increase and so you will send in a big order, although you are not in immediate need of the goods, otherwise you might have some money left to buy some necessary goods from your local merchant.

9. You shall have the merchants who repair the goods you buy from us book the bills so you can send the money for his labor to us for new goods, otherwise we will not notice our influence.

10. You shall, in case of sickness or need, apply to your local dealer for aid and credit, as we do not know you or care to.—Booster Journal.

Autumn Travel Features

TO CALIFORNIA: November is the last month of the San Francisco Exposition. The Burlington's through coast sleeper service, in connection with the Rio Grande through Scenic Colorado, will be maintained. The usual nine-months' round trip rates to California will be in effect all winter.

TO THE SOUTH: Winter Tourist rates to and through the South, Gulf resorts, Florida, Cuba, etc., are now in effect. They include attractive circuit route tours of the South, which are steadily becoming more popular for winter visitors.

NEBRASKA-IOWA annual football struggle, Lincoln, Nov. 20th. You do not have to go east these days for high class football. Nebraska Varsity will show it to you.

Exposition folders, Southern Tours leaflet, descriptive folders of California and Southern lines, all free on request. We are always at your service in connection with any tour you may have in mind.

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