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## LOTS OF FUN FOR A DIME


rotorated by 8o gowd a judge
avtor as yourself, Ponderby.
They went tokether to Ponderby" abin, hnd there sat the woman, her atretched along the table, her shoultretched atong tho table, her shoul-
ders heaving with her sobs, She was ders heaving with her sobs, She was
plainly on the verge of hysterics, it. painly on the verge of hysterics, If.
mideed, she had not already crossed ndeed, she had no
the boundary line.
"Madam, here is Mr. Trevelyan." sald Ponderly. "You wished to speak with him.'

ThE girl raised hor head, dabbed handkerchlef, and made an effort to handkerchel. and made an effort to
pull herself together. When she ppoke, it was with rapld utterance, spoke, it was with rapld utterance,
reeling off what she had to say as if it reeling of what she had to sa
were a task learned by rote.
"I have come at last to the end of my tether, and tonight. If there is no mrospect of freedom, I shall destroy
myself, I have often thought of suiIde before this, but I am cowardly, and eling to life. Five years ago, my father went out to America on a motor
tour: he took me with him. Among other servants he engaged Charle Branksome, an expert chauffeur. He ommended. He intimated that he was of good family, but had his living to earn. He was handsome then, and had ia most ingratiating manner. The per son who called on you tonight bear of five years ago. I had offen motoring with him in Amerlea. I was young, flishty, and a foolish persor ittogether. Prorhaps you saw about it in the papers, I cannot dwell on the
appalling mlatake 1 made. Ho proressed to have fallen in love with me and I belfeved him.
"We were seeretly married in Amer
Fa, and I was not long in doubt ns His sole desire was money; my fathur however, was a stubborn man, and after his first shock - the episode be Ing made much of in the American papers - he refused to pay Brank some a penny, and returned to Eng could I communicate with again, no years after my mad act he died and never even mentloned me in his will
"My husband is a llar; a thlef; a forgnr; a gambler and a brute. Hs has maltreated me so that 1 have been left once or twice for dead, but finally he broke me to his will. He is known Europe, and on the Atlantic liners. Lately 1 have been used as a decoy in the way you have experienced. Some how he learned - indeed, that is his busfuess - who were the rich travel wan this boat. He thought ame on the newest and largest steamship first, be thoroughly organized, and polnted you out to me as you came on board, and said you were Lord Stran leigh, traveling as Mr. Trevelyan. The rest you know. He forced me to hand His plan was to demand a moderat His Dlan was to demand a moderat sim at inst, whing was to be a mere boginning, and each exaction would
be but a prelude for the next. He is old at the game, and is wanted now
grelude for the next. He is by the authoritles in New York for blackmailing a very well-known mil Honalms

Ifonaire?
She gave him the information.
Very well, Madam. In the first place yout mitist do nothing rash
foollsh. I shall see that this man detained at New York - on some pretext or other; in fact, I shall arrange for this by wfrefess. You must Journey to ons of the
may be obtained
may be obtainet.
Stranlelgh aitde
stranlegh added, after a cool, scru tinizing
woman:
"If you will parmit, I shall be you banker, Should Iranksome go free in
New. York, it will cost him dear, and New. York, it will cost him dear, and
as hls supplos are precarlous, you
should have no difficulty in evading Oh. yes, yes You are only too kind," she said, as slue sobbed again Then It s settled. Ponderby, look way of orcape is clear." see that the "I am sorry," the girl said, risingshe sek-med very young. Stranlelgh
thought-"to cause you such trouble and inconvenience
Stranlofeh wenlence at all," said Stanlolgh, With hls usisal notieha lance, and
be troubled.

Ponderby
and the lady disainarel way cear along the passage, Stranleigh botook himself to Hazel's cabin, and had whe for the flit the foncurable Joh age, seemed to be enjoying himself.

NEXT morning, the Honosrable an iftn paced one deck after another. as the almost duserted lowe
met the person he sought.

I beg your pardon," said Hazel, in his suavest manner, "but I am trying to find three mon as tred of thls Jour ney as 1 am , 1 have never crossed don, and the conventence of its cinbs A quiet little game of poker in the away the time." The keen eyes of Mr. Branksom Foole
thatra, and he took in the points the man who addressed hin "T am not much at poker,"
hesitatingly and untruthfully The Honourable John laughed

Does $n$ 't matter in the least," lix sald. "The requifrement for this game is cash, who object to playing for money I confess I don't care a rap for a card table unless there's something on.
"I'm with you there," agreed the stout man, his eyes glistening at the thought of handling a pack of cards once more. His momentary hesitation had been merely because he feared recognition, for be knew himself able to cope with anyone when it came to the shuttle and deal.

They were a strangely contrasted pair as they stood there, the pleb and serious, the patrician carrying off the situation with situation was hand a light laugh. Yet it expert rascal when it came to cards.

A little later four men sat down a table. Hazel ordered a new pack of cards from the steward, broke the seal and pulled off the wrapper
At first Poole played cautiously watching from the tafl of his eye for
any officer who might spot him as one who had been ordered off the green. The consequence of this divided atten thon was soon apparent. He lost heav Ily, and finally drew a couple of fifty. pound notes from his pocket-book. He tingered them for a moment, as
"Where's the steward?" he asked. What do you want?" demanded Hazel, as though impatifent for the game to go on.
['Il change it for you," and the Honourable John drew from his pocket a handful of gold, and fivepound bank notes; connted out fifty polnds, and shoved them across the table to Poole, who, still hesitating, was forced rel
big bank-note.

Poole now began to play in earnest. but still luck was against him, and soon the recond fifty-pound note was changed, for they played high. Hazel, after giancing at the number on
the note. thrust it carelossly into his waisteoat pocket, atongside its brother, as if it were of no more ac.

## pt taan a cigarette paper

hotes that mleht have the two bank evidence against Stranleigh, and he drew a sigh of satisfaction. Poole saw

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Can have a Pretty Figure







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