

## CLAIRVOYANCE

By ELLIS ROBINSON.

Hilary fitted into the adorable garden—a tall shape, lithe, slim, blue smoothed to match the splendid tall larkspurs and the nodding Canterbury bells. A delicately pretty girl, full of intangible subtleties, she could not get over the surprise of finding herself at Barton.

Her hosts, the Barton-Fairs, had a surprise of another sort—over her unfettered acceptance of luxury. They knew very well why she was there. They had made much money. Money in turn had made them socially aspiring—particularly for Tom and Phyllis, son and daughter of the house. Hence, the transplantation of Hilary Fontaine from the pinchings of genteel poverty to the ease of lavish wealth.

Hilary was gladder for Aunt Pam than for herself. Unless she, too, had been asked, Hilary would not have thought of going. But the Barton-Fairs had been anxious to have the stately aunt. Aunt Pam's only and beloved nephew, not yet thirty, but already a man of mark, was coming home to visit his people. Fontaine Dabney had the double distinction of being silver-tongued, yet golden-wise—for though he stood like a lion for the poor, he had no antipathy for riches.

Mr. Barton-Fair had known all this long before he knew the Fontaines. He was entirely of his clever wife's mind, that Providence had made ready in Aunt Pam's young people precisely the right mates for Tommy and Phyllis. He was prouder of his children even than of his fortune.

Aunt Pam liked Phyllis, even admired her, although by contrast she did make Hilary's April fairness appear a trifle wan. Tommy had won the older Miss Fontaine's warm heart earlier than any of the others.

"You nice boy! Please don't ever grow up!" she had said to him after she had inveigled her into a long ride in his car—a feat which theretofore she had declared impossible. Afterward she had confessed to Hilary that she should have thenceforth to think better of all rich young men.

Naturally she was very happy at Barton. She sat in a garden chair positively beaming as Tommy and Hilary went up and down the long border cutting flowers. Later, when the flowers had been properly placed—a labor of joy for Hilary—she said to her niece: "Really, Tommy is one of a thousand. Fontaine even couldn't do it better—being so much the host he is not a bit the gallant. I hope Fontaine will like all of them here—they will be such good friends to you two. But there, I won't talk."

"Best not, Aunt Pam. Walls have ears—how much more piazzas and things," Hilary laughed, moving off quickly. She knew what it was Aunt Pam hinted at—her darling plan to match niece and nephew so that when the family glories were again refulgent they should be concentrated, not diffused.

Fontaine knew it, too—and both had been acquiescent rather than eager. Hilary had even fancied she cared for him, having seen hardly another man of marriageable condition.

She began now to think of him a great deal—if the truth must be spoken, to keep herself from thinking a good deal oftener of Tommy. The latter certainly did not show signs of being stricken—but somehow, now and then, something in his eyes—blue and innocent almost as her own—some note in his voice—although it spoke only commonplaces—stirred her as Fontaine's look and speech had never done.

Hilary was eager yet reluctant to see her cousin. Aunt Pam had let her know, indirectly, that she felt it incumbent to let the good Barton-Fairs understand their prospective relationship. "It will be more dignified—entire frankness," she had said. Hilary wanted to protest, to beg for silence at least, but the habit of obedience was too strong.

So perhaps she was no more than properly sympathetic when, just as Fontaine was due, Aunt Pam developed a toothache so violent that it swelled her face grotesquely and kept her out of view for full three days. She would see nobody but the maid.

When, upon the fourth morning, the invalid came down to breakfast convalescent she found awaiting her the surprise of her life. Standing her stateliest self as she saluted host and hostess, she began with an air of finality that did great credit to her dignity: "Let me announce to you the betrothal of my niece and my nephew."

"Why, Aunt Pam! Are you a clairvoyant? However did you find it out? We only knew it ourselves last night—and have just told the authorities," Fontaine interrupted.

And there he stood, with an arm about Phyllis, while Tommy, grinning like a happy gargoyle, gently tweaked Hilary's ear. In a twinkling, the Barton Fair elders were either side of the speechless woman, madam hugging her, paternally shaking both her hands and declaring not quite steadily, "We—we couldn't ask for—anything better. The good Lord must have sent you to make our cup of blessing overflow."

To this day, Aunt Pam's wonderful prescience is among the dear traditions of the Barton-Fairs and their descendants. Hilary perhaps could explain it, but she keeps a golden silence.

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## BABY'S DANGER PERIOD

ESPECIAL CARE REQUIRED FROM MAY TO OCTOBER.

Thoughtful Mother May Do Much to Protect Infant From Summer Illness—Simple Rules That Must Be Observed.

(Prepared by the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor.)

From May to October the baby must be guarded with special care, if he is to escape the dangers which lurk about him in the hot days of summer.

It is estimated that of the many thousands of babies who die every summer, principally in July and August, half might have been saved, since summer diarrhea may often be prevented with suitable care.

It is caused, in a large number of cases, by mistakes in the method of feeding, or by using impure milk, or other unsuitable dangerous foods, or by overheating the baby with too much clothing.

The careful and thoughtful mother may do much, therefore, to protect her baby from this illness, by avoiding, as far as possible, its various causes. Throughout this series of articles mothers have been urged to observe certain simple rules for the health of the baby in summer. These rules require:

1. That the baby shall be fed on proper food in proper quantities at proper intervals.

2. That he shall have no food between meals, but shall have plenty of pure, cool drinking water.

3. That he shall be kept as cool as possible by fresh air, plenty of baths, and very little clothing.

4. That he shall be protected from flies and mosquitoes.

If these rules are faithfully carried out many cases of summer diarrhea will be prevented. If, however, the disease appears, the city mother should at once consult her doctor, or



A Healthy Summer Baby.

If she has no physician, take her baby to the nearest infant welfare station where competent physicians will advise her with regard to the care of the baby and trained nurses will assist her in carrying out his directions. It is of great importance to take the disease in its first stages, as a mild form of the disease readily becomes a serious one.

In the country, where it is very difficult to get the advice of a doctor, the mother has a harder problem. Because she is out of the range of infant welfare stations, hospitals, and often of physicians as well, it is most important to prevent every attack of illness possible by careful attention to the baby's food and general care, as already advised in these articles.

If the baby is still at the breast, one or two nursings should be omitted, and only pure, cool water given in its place. Meanwhile the mother's breasts should be pumped at each usual nursing time to prevent their drying up.

Bottle-fed babies are much more likely to be the victims of summer diarrhea. When this happens, the bottle should be omitted for eight, twelve or twenty-four hours, according to the severity of the attack. Do not, however, keep food from the baby longer than twenty-four hours, except on the advice of a physician. When the bottle is resumed, the food should be much weaker than before; at least, half of the milk previously given should be substituted by water. The milk should be skimmed, and sugar should be omitted. The return to the former feeding should be made gradually, adding a little more milk each day, and beginning to add sugar. The more severe the attack has been, the more slowly should changes be made.

If the baby is on "mixed" feeding, that is, partly breast and partly bottle-fed, the bottle feedings should be omitted if diarrhea appears, and the breast given once in four or five hours, with nothing but drinking water between meals.

The Children's Bureau publishes a pamphlet called "Infant Care," which is sent free of charge to anyone sending a request to the Chief of the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington. This pamphlet contains some simple directions for the care of the babies in summer which may help the mother to prevent summer diarrheas and other ailments of infancy.

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