

# The Day Star of the Orkney's.

A Romance--By Hannah B. McKenzie.

## CHAPTER X.

"You will break the news to Miss Halcrow?" said Elspeth gently. An hour had passed, and all that Elspeth and Evan, assisted by the terrified servants, could do for Magnus Halcrow had been done. He still lay unconscious, a ghastly cut, hastily bandaged in amateur fashion by Evan, across his head; but with what other injuries, internal or external, they did not know.

The doctor who had been wired for had telegraphed that he was on his way to Craig Castle; but he could not be there for an hour yet.

"I cannot leave you alone," objected Monteth.

"Do not mind me; I shall be all right," said Elspeth hastily. "I suppose--she paused with a sudden shudder--"nothing can be done for her?"

Monteth shook his head. There was a strange expression on his face.

"Nothing," he said. "You must promise me on no account to go into the room, Miss Troil. It can do no good to the dead, and may harm you. You will promise?"

"Yes," said Elspeth. Then suddenly a strange, inarticulate sound that was almost a cry broke from her, and she covered her face. "It is too awful!--too horrible!" she cried, "going like that into God's presence--unprepared--unconfessed! And a few hours ago she was sitting here, the incarnation of life and brightness. Oh, God, I cannot bear to think of it! God--God have mercy upon her!"

"Amen," said Monteth hoarsely. He suddenly caught her hand. "Elspeth, whatever may be in your mind, whatever you suspect or fear, try to bury it out of sight and forget, as I shall. We shall keep our own dark doubts a secret forever from the whole world, shall we not?"

"For ever," Elspeth whispered, and her lip suddenly quivered. "You are generous."

"I must go now," said Monteth. And so they parted--Elspeth to return to her lonely watch, Monteth to hurry to Abbot's Head.

The horror was still dark and heavy upon him that he had felt as he drew from under her battered machine very gently the terribly mutilated figure of the woman who had tried to compass his own death. There was no doubt in his mind as to that. It was she who had tampered with his machine, counting on its going to pieces very probably at the unguarded portion of the cliff-path.

She had mistaken Magnus Halcrow for him--a natural mistake, for they resembled each other at a distance--and had made that last desperate attempt to rid herself of him, probably counting on his springing to the cliff side of the path, in ignorance of the broken barricade. How strangely, awfully, like the judgment of a just God it seemed! Monteth was soon at Abbot's Head. As he strode up the garden-path Day emerged from the doorway and met him.

Her face suddenly flashed white as she recognized him; then she bowed, and, after a moment's hesitation, offered her hand.

"You have come to say good-by? I heard that you were leaving tomorrow."

"I was," answered Monteth, slowly; "but it is not that that has brought me here now. I am sorry to be the bearer of bad news, Miss Halcrow--"

She interrupted him a little breathlessly: "Something has happened--Magnus?"

"You will be brave," said Monteth gently; "and, please God, it may not be so bad as we fear." Then, briefly and as gently as possible, he told her all.

She listened in silence, her face growing paler and paler, until it was drained of every drop of blood. When he paused she said, in a voice out of which all the music had gone: "I may go to him?"

"I have come for you," said Monteth. "The carriage is waiting below."

"I shall go and get ready," said Day, in a low voice.

She turned to re-enter the house, but as she did so, the whole earth seemed to heave beneath her feet, and she would have fallen had Monteth not caught her in his arms. For a moment he held her there, her white face resting against his breast; then Day struggled from his clasp.

"Let me go, Mr. Monteth."

"Day," exclaimed Evan hoarsely, "it seems almost profanation to speak of such things now; but, my darling, my only true love, I cannot let you go without asking you to forgive me, and to say you will still trust me. Give me the satisfaction of taking care of you in this terrible time, and of knowing you trust my care. Day, you once said you loved me." She looked at him strangely out of those sorrow-filled, sea-blue eyes of hers.

"You say Miss Stuart is dead, and you can say that to me now?" she said, almost in a whisper.

"She is dead," he answered gravely. "Day, I must not speak unkindly of the dead; but if you knew all the truth you could never for a moment have imagined I loved her. She was my

bitterest enemy." For a moment Day was silent; then she turned to Monteth and laid her trembling little hand in his.

"And Magnus is perhaps dying because he tried to save her! Can I have been hard and unkind? I almost hated her. And now she is dead! God forgive me and grant her peace! Evan, take me to my brother. I seem to have no one now but you."

He drew her to him for one second, and kissed her trembling lips. And so, in the midst of tragedy and sorrow "bitter like blood and dark as deep of death," deep trust and sweet hope came back to two human hearts.

## CHAPTER XI.

Magnus did not die. He slowly came back to life and consciousness, nursed by the tender hands of the two women who loved him; and of these two the tenderest were Elspeth Troil's.

Lilith Stuart had been laid to rest in the family vaults. Lady Westray was still at the castle, wretched had gone the lawyers in whose hands were the affairs of the estate, and Elspeth was with her.

A fortnight later Magnus lay in his own room at Abbot's Head, and Day sat beside him. He was still pale, and the terrible cut across his forehead was very conspicuous, but to Day it seemed as if he had come back from the jaws of death.

A ring at the outer door made the sweet color fly to Day's cheeks. Monteth had been away for five days, but she knew that this was him come back again.

Day flew to the door, and in a few minutes came back, not with Monteth only, but with Elspeth Troil as well.

"I have brought your nurse to see you, Halcrow," said Monteth as Magnus extended his uninjured hand.

"And your nurse is more pleased with your progress than she can say," said Elspeth, bending her grave, sweet voice and dark eyes over the couch. They sat together for a few minutes, then Monteth suddenly spoke:

"I have a purpose in thus bringing you all together. It is that you might together hear my story, and the secret of my connection with the poor dead girl whom we all knew. Miss Troil knows part of the story--not all."

"Five years ago I was secretary to Sir James Westray, to whom I was also a distant connection. He lived then on his estate in Perthshire, and during Parliament was up in London; for he was, as you know, Vice-Chancellor of the Exchequer. While there, his cousin, Mrs. Stuart, widow of a captain in the army, and her daughter came to visit him. She was very poor; she was also--I must not mince matters--a scheming, designing woman. Sir James had no children. His property and fortune should go, in right of succession, to the orphan children of another cousin--a boy and girl, mere children."

"It became Mrs. Stuart's object to induce the old man to make a will leaving all to her own daughter. Lilith was then seventeen, such as she was when you knew her--beautiful and fascinating. Her mother set her to work on the old man's vanity. Sir James had one foible, and that was an inordinate love of self. How well she succeeded you can yourselves imagine."

"I was three years older than Lilith, and at a susceptible age. She bewitched me. I did not love her--I could not profane that holy feeling by giving my own infatuation its name; but I seemed under a spell, and yielded to her in all things. She allowed me to think my feeling was reciprocated."

"Suddenly Mrs. Stuart died. Then Sir James announced his intention of adopting Lilith. To all intents and purposes she was his own child. Yet Lilith herself knew her position was insecure as long as the Westray children lived."

"Sir James was ailing for some time before he died, and Lilith was constantly with him during that time. She urged him constantly, with all the persuasive powers of which she was mistress; but for long he held out steadily against her."

"One night--it was late at night--Lilith came to me."

"He has done it!" she exclaimed triumphantly. "He has made out the will at last! All that he has will be mine. Come and sign it as a witness, Evan."

"I feebly protested, saying that it was a sin to deprive the other children of their inheritance, but Lilith only scoffed. You will understand how far I had fallen by that mean infatuation when I tell you that I followed her and signed the paper as a witness."

"A few days after Sir James died. There was no contested case. The children were too young to understand matters, and their guardians were easily silenced."

"Lilith still encouraged me, and I visited the house, which was occupied by her and Lady Westray. It was while doing so that, by a strange accident, I discovered the secret which legal eyes had not detected."

"Sir James' signature to the will had been forged!"

"I shall not lengthen my story by

going into the details of my discovery. Enough that I taxed Lilith with it, and she defied me to prove it. When she saw I was in earnest, she changed her tactics; threw herself on my mercy, knelt to me, besought me not to bring this awful disgrace upon her; then promised she would look after the Westray children and keep them in as great comfort as ever they could have had if the property had come to them. I was weak; I yielded.

"I know my part was a base one, scorn and blame me for it as you will. I went abroad. By that time I had inherited a small income which left me independent. I passed a year or two bear-shooting in the Rockies. Conscience pursued me. I saw Lilith in her true light, and all the false glamour that had surrounded her vanished."

"I came here. You know--at least, Elspeth does--how Lilith tried to regain her old power over me. When she saw it was useless, she defied me to do my worst. Well, let us cast no stone at the poor, silent dead."

He paused. The faces of the three who had listened breathlessly to him were very pale.

Magnus was the first to speak. He held out his hand.

"Forgive me, Monteth. I have been unjust and suspicious; but your story is strange beyond fiction."

Monteth grasped his hand.

"You won't refuse me what I've come to ask from you, then, Halcrow? You know what it is."

He put his arm round Day, who was trembling and pale; but the action brought the rosy color rushing back to her cheeks.

"You are going to take my Star of Day from me, then? Well, I suppose it must have come sooner or later, and rather you than any other man, Monteth," said Magnus, his voice just a little unsteady. "God bless you, my little Day! Kiss me."

"Magnus, I'm not going to leave you," cried Day soothingly. But she bent and kissed the scarred face, her tears running down upon it. Then, on a sudden impulse, she turned and kissed Elspeth Troil.

"And now I wish to have this maiden just for a few minutes to myself," said Monteth, standing up and drawing Day's arm through his own. "Nurse, will you wait with your patient till we come back? After that I shall take you back to Craig Castle."

Elspeth said nothing, but her lips grew tremulous.

"You loved her once, and before me, Evan," Day whispered as they were strolling down the garden, with his arm round her and her head near his shoulder. "And she had such an influence over you--more than I shall ever have!"

"For evil," said Monteth thoughtfully. Then he bent and kissed the sweet mouth. "She was a beautiful star, Day, to lure me to base and unworthy ways from all good and noble ones; but you are the Daystar that will, God willing, guide me through the shoals and quicksands of life until--he paused and added reverently--"God Himself takes us both into His eternal Day."

(To be Continued.)

## DOG DAYS IN COURT.

Interesting Legal Rulings About Our Canine Friends.

From Case and Comment: A pretty costly dog in Michigan was found to have devoured \$10 worth of meat at one sitting--Cheney vs. Russell, 44 Michigan, 620. If a dog greedily and rucely goes behind the counter of a shop and there feloniously applies to his own use bread and cheese left for mice and rats, and dies from the effects of poison spread upon the comestibles, his death does not lie at the shopkeeper's door, though he die there.--Appleton, Ch. J., in State vs. Harriman, 75 Me. 562, 46 Am. Rep. 423, Cit. Stansfeld vs. Bolleng, 22 L. T. Rep. N. S. 799. Where a small dog was away from home decollete, although the statute required a collar, and was killed by a large dog, and the defense was that the killing was lawful because of the want of a collar, it was held by the court that the big dog was not de jure or de facto a police officer or constable, and was not shown to have examined the records to see whether or not the little dog had been licensed to travel without a collar.--Heisrod vs. Hackett (Mich.) 3 Cent. L. J. 479.

In the prosecution of a negro for stealing a dog with a collar on, when a demurrer to the indictment was sustained because it was not larceny to steal a dog, the prosecution claimed that he also stole the collar that was on the dog, but the defense claimed that the negro took the dog only and the dog took the collar. The prisoner was finally discharged.--3 Cent. L. J. 554.

## Stokers Work Is Healthy.

It is a fact that the stokers on board an ocean "liner," provided the men are steady in their habits, suffer scarcely at all from their arduous labors. A stoker works four hours at a stretch, and during this time the temperature of his surroundings varies from 120 to 160 degrees. One stoker usually has four furnaces to attend to, and while feeding one furnace a man has to be extremely careful or his arm will be burnt by the furnace behind him. As a rule, a man is occupied for about three minutes at each furnace, and directly he had finished he rushes to the air-pipe and awaits till his turn comes round again. It has been found that the work is least injurious to the men who are regularly employed at it.--Burlington Hawkeye.

## No Time Lost.

"I wonder why it is that meetings of the unemployed are always called on Sunday." "That is so the men who attend will not be forced to lose a day from their work."--Exchange.

## OF GENERAL INTEREST

### INFORMATION FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Events of More Than Passing Interest Which Have Transpired Since the War Ended--Peace Progress and Movements of Army, Navy, and Departments.

#### Wednesday, September 21.

The stars and stripes are in evidence in Havana. Old Glory floats over the American commission's headquarters.

The exposition building at Tacoma, Wash., was burned; loss \$100,000; no insurance. It was the largest structure of its kind in the northwest.

The secretary of the treasury has received from Topeka, Kan., a letter signed "A Citizen," enclosing a certificate of fund contribution of \$500.

Michael Schwarz, a Chicago musician, shot his divorced wife and then killed himself. The tragedy was the result of an argument over past difficulties.

The rumor that Secretary Alger placed his resignation at the disposal of the president has been emphatically denied by the secretary himself.

Three hundred horses of Roosevelt's rough riders were sold at auction in New York. The average price received was \$16. They cost the government \$65 each.

At a meeting of the Richmond, Va., chapter, daughters of the confederacy, yesterday, it was decided to inaugurate a movement to erect a monument over the grave of Winnie Davis.

The president has sent a peremptory note to General Wade, chairman of the Cuban evacuation commission, stating that the United States will brook no delay in the matter of the Spanish troops evacuating the island. The terms of the protocol call for their "immediate evacuation."

The San Francisco Evening Post prints an article which purports to make known the plans of the Germans in regard to the disposition of the Philippines. It alleges that Germany proposes to arm the insurgents, drill them, and sometime after while have the insurgents under Aguinaldo attack the Americans.

#### Thursday, September 22.

Insulting flouts greeted General Toral when he landed in Spain.

General Garcia is expected to visit the United States within the next two weeks.

Admiral Cervera landed at Santander, Spain, and was wildly greeted with cheers.

It is said that the empress dowager of China will reinstate Li Hong Chang to power.

In an interview General Shafter said the conduct of the war could not have been better.

Governor Pingree was unanimously renominated by Michigan republicans. No opposition was made.

The French vessel Ville de Fecamp founded off Fecamp and her crew of thirty six were drowned.

The death list in General Lawton's command at Santiago is decreasing. Many new cases of fever are reported, but they are mild in form.

Chaplain McIntire of the battleship Oregon has been stricken with nervous prostration, and the court-martial to try him for alleged remarks of Admiral Sampson is postponed.

Public feeling in France is undergoing a change in regard to the Dreyfus matter, and the indignation of the citizens is directed toward the army to such an extent as to threaten that organization.

The Porto Rican volunteers have all disbanded and the Spanish soldiers are engaged in dismantling the armories and barracks and in boxing the guns and ammunition. They are rejoicing over the prospect of an early return to their homes.

#### Friday, September 23.

The Omaha fire and police commission were ordered removed today by the supreme court. Following this decision came one declaring Mayor Moores of Omaha ineligible to the office he holds because he was in default as clerk of the district court when he was elected mayor. These two decisions came as the result of long and bitter litigation. This action of the court in the fire and police case was not unexpected, but no linking of the court's decision in the Broatch-Moores case reached the public till court adjourned late yesterday afternoon and filed opinions with the clerk. In declaring Mayor Moores ineligible the court sustained the findings of E. J. Clements of Ord, who acted as referee for the court and took testimony and submitted conclusions of law.

The appeal of the state of Nebraska in the suit against bondsmen of ex-Auditor Eugene Moore was decided in favor of the bondsmen at the recent sitting of the supreme court. In this case the court says the auditor collected fees from insurance companies and embezzled them, but holds his sureties not liable because the law of 1875 so modified by the constitution of 1875 so as to require the payment of such fees in advance to the state treasurer and prohibits the auditor from receiving them. It is held that sureties are not liable for money collected and embezzled by their principal unless as such officer he was authorized by law to collect or receive such moneys. A writ of mandamus was also issued by the court to compel Auditor Cornell to act on claims presented by the society for the home for the friendless. This suit did not involve the legality of the claims but was to compel action so that the society may appeal from the auditor's action if necessary, to the district court.

The spontaneous combustion of dust in the elevator of Paddock Hodge & Co., at Toledo, O., caused a fire that cremated eight men and fatally burned eight others.

A barn belonging to Wencel Symodenes of Wahoo was totally destroyed by fire, and another building near by was badly scorched. The damage is in the neighborhood of \$500. The fire in all probability originated from a lighted cigar stub, as the day before a big crowd was in town to the circus and the building was used as a feed stable.

#### Saturday, September 24.

Reports from the south indicate that yellow fever is making headway.

The Cuban soldiers are disbanding and are engaging in pursuits of peace. Edgemont, S. D., had a \$150,000 blaze which destroyed several handsome business blocks.

Retail druggists who have been paying the war tax are taking steps to shift the burden to the wholesaler.

General Garcia yesterday entered Santiago and was greeted as a hero. The Americans accorded him every courtesy.

So far about 500 applications for pensions have been made to the pension bureau as a result of the war with Spain.

The Drummond Tobacco company has passed into the hands of the American Tobacco company, and the giant trust is now assured.

Mme. Paulmier, wife of M. Charles Paulmier, member of the French chamber of deputies, shot and wounded M. Olivier de La Lanterne, for alleged slander.

#### Sunday, September 25.

A tornado visited Ohio in the vicinity of Lima and did much damage.

News from General Kitchener is to the effect that he has left Khartoum for Tashoda.

Policeman John Tuxford of Chicago was shot and killed while attempting to arrest two crooks.

Thousands of acres of timber land in Montana are threatened with destruction by forest fires.

The powers have united against Turkey and demand that the sultan must restore order in Crete or be punished.

George Kerwin of Chicago got the decision over Jerome Quigley of Philadelphia at Toronto in a fifteen-round 59.

The eruption of Vesuvius is increasing in violence and it is feared that it will assume the proportions of that of 1872.

The story that Germany proposed to arm the Philippine insurgents and seize the islands is pronounced to be without foundation by Washington officials.

The Meadowbrook club of New York won the polo championship of America and the William Waldorf Astor cup from Philadelphia by the score of 14 to 7.

Captain J. M. Brooks, master of the yacht China of San Francisco, was mysteriously murdered soon after returning to the yachting in an intoxicated condition.

Political enemies of Teddy Roosevelt are attempting to prove that he is not eligible to the governorship of New York, claiming that he is not a resident of the state.

Topeka, Kas., flour mills have ceased grinding for want of wheat. It is estimated that fifty mills at other points in the state are idle from the same cause. Farmers are holding their wheat for better prices.

#### Monday, September 26.

The Spanish peace commissioners have gone to Paris.

Diplomatic relations between Italy and Colombia have been resumed.

Paquillo Colletti was shot and killed by John Sbrochi at Joliet, Ill. He was found in a compromising position with Mrs. Sbrochi, which enraged the husband, who objected to such proceedings.

A report has been received from Gen. Merriman, who recently returned from Honolulu, in which he says there is no truth in the statement that the troops in Hawaii are without sufficient food supply.

It is announced at Madrid that 10,000 Spaniards, residing on the island of Porto Rico, have refused to live on the island under the American flag, and have demanded that they be returned to Spain.

The Italian bark Olga arrived at the Delaware breakwater for orders from Samarang, Java, laden with sugar. She brought to a close a voyage of strange fatalities, having only a few of the original officers on board. Captain Creyer, her commander, and five others having died of that dread disease, scurvy, which so often breaks out on board vessels from the far east.

#### Tuesday, September 27.

Thomas F. Bayard is expected to die at any moment.

The tide of republicanism in New York has turned to Roosevelt, and he will be named by the convention for governor.

Fanny Davenport (Mrs. Melbourne McDowell) died at her summer home at Duxbury, Mass., of enlargement of the heart.

Lieutenant Hobson is still confident he can save the Cristobal Colon. He says he expects to return to New York on board the Colon.

John Williams, the Knoxville, Tenn., negro who seriously stabbed Sherman Dunn and assaulted Mrs. Mollie Shelton, was taken from the jail by a mob and hanged.

At a meeting of the French cabinet yesterday morning, all the members being present, a decision was taken in favor of a revision of the trial of Captain Dreyfus.

At Kenton, O., George Carlton, living two miles east of town, got into a scuffle with a chicken thief. His sister went to his rescue with an axe. By mistake she crushed her brother's skull and it is feared he will die.

The commission selected by the president to investigate the conduct of the war department held its first session in Washington yesterday. Idle complaints will receive no attention, but specific charges are invited.

Rich bachelors never realize how well off they are until they marry. George F. Green, president of the commercial travelers home association of America, has started from Binghamton, N. Y., a ten-cent endless chain of letters for the purpose of raising money to complete the home.

At the festivities at Quebec in memory of the French explorer Champlain, the American cruiser Marblehead was accorded a rousing reception by the British ships in the river and by the people on land. Captain McCallis and his marines came in for special attention.

## LATEST TRAIN ROBBERY

Safe and Express Car Shattered With Dynamite.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 25.--The dull explosion that was heard in the southwestern part of the city last night was the work of the "quail hunters." It was not much after 10 o'clock when the "quail hunters" dynamited the express car of a south-bound Missouri Pacific train a few miles beyond Leeds and eight miles from Kansas City. That they did not blow off their own feathers was a wonder, for the car was razed, the great iron safe was shattered and, for a distance of two miles, waybills and papers and fragments of baggage were scattered along the track. The party of masked "quail hunters," thinking they had cut the telegraph wires to Kansas City, used no stint in the application of dynamite. They left a card with the express messenger stating that the supply of quails was good.

Chief Hayes has in his possession the only tangible clue of the men who did the work. It is a card handed to Express Messenger E. N. Hills by one of the robbers after they had finished. On one side is printed: "Vote for Robert W. Green, Republican nominee for county collector of Jackson county." On the reverse side this is printed with a dull lead pencil:

We, the masked knights of the road, robbed the M. P. train at the Belt line junction to-night. The supply of quails was good. With much love we remain,

JOHN KENNEDY,  
HILL RYAN,  
BILL ANDERSON,  
SAM BROWN,  
JIM BIRMINGHAM.

The Pacific Express company declares it lost nothing except smashed express matter.

The whole affair took only a few minutes. At 9:40 o'clock the Wichita-Little Rock express stopped at the Pittsburg & Gulf junction, fewer than eight miles south of Kansas City, and in thirty minutes the sound of the explosion was heard in the city.

Word of the hold-up reached police headquarters and the county marshal's office about the same time, between 10:30 o'clock and 11 o'clock.

For two hours Deputy Marshals Wilson, Taylor and Leahy restlessly inhabited the darkness at Second and Grand avenue, waiting for the Missouri Pacific train to go to the scene.

The engine of the relief train pushed the robbed and engineless express car ahead, for it was impossible to pass it. It held the track. It was a slow, noisy procession. About one-half mile further on the caravan of coaches came upon a strange scene.

The conductor of the ill-fated train, Hans Carr, several deputy marshals and a number of negroes with guns, were delving in a mass of debris by the track side in the weird torchlight. Broken trunks, women's finery, fragments of car roofs, a bicycle, men's underclothing, blackened valises and a pulpy mass of a hundred different things were piled and scattered in the ditch along the left hand side of the track. The telegraph wires were festooned with wreckage. Here the express car had been blown up, but where was the car?

"We're from the coal camp," said the armed negroes. "We heard the explosion and came over to find out about it."

The railway and express officials fell to heaving the fragments of baggage and express matter into the empty baggage car brought with the relief train.

At a point which the railway men said was about three and one-half miles beyond the junction, burned a fitful, sullen fire. It was the wrecked express car and the killed engine.

What a wreck it was. The car was literally razed to the flat car. Twisted irons, and a flat, tangled mass of baggage, express matter and timbers burned like a gigantic spent fire cracker or a huge bit of "punk." On the left side of the wreck, on the ground, lay the great iron safe. It's top was stove in and it was shattered as if riddled by a 13-inch shell. The crowds pulled out lumps of the fire proof cement lining as mementoes.