

Knights Who Fought the Dragon

together without finding the need for mutual concessions and for adjustment to one another. Husband and wife must learn adaptability, to accept the limitations of each other, to be tolerant of points of difference and not to make too heavy demands upon the other's sympathy. Love is not a diamond which, once received, can be locked away in a drawer and be found unchanged after twenty years. Love is a tender, sensitive plant which must be watched and cared for every day."

"How did you promote its growth so successfully, mother?"

"By expression, for one thing. I never wearied of telling my husband I loved him, either in words or actions."

"But you are naturally demonstrative, mother. I am not; I would feel like a double-dyed hypocrite if I expressed a regard even for you that I did not feel at the moment."

"Nonsense, Ray," said Mrs. Gilmour hotly, for years had not tamed her impetuosity. "A thousand things influence your feelings. Your love for me is steadfast. You don't dub yourself a hypocrite when you are polite when you don't feel like it. You know you ought to be polite, and you act up to the oughtness instead of your boorish feelings. Feelings are hum-