

A VACATION EPISODE

By Edward Gerritsen

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The girl first saw the man coming toward her out of the east in the canoe like a herald of the rising sun. Imagination transformed him to a yellow-haired Viking and his up-to-date canoe to a battle galley with a serpent's head prow.

The man saw the girl standing, straight as a birch sapling, on a huge, brown rock, gazing out at him over the water. Fancy painted her a siren sent to lure him to destruction on the rocks at her feet. Without a moment's hesitation he decided it would be pleasant to be lured. He arched his hand above his mouth.

"Ye-ho!" he called to her.
She mimicked his action.
"Ye-ho!" she answered back.

The next stroke of the paddle almost lifted the canoe from the water, and the girl mimicked the vigorous flight, yet, knowing who he was, she decided to remain.

"He certainly is all that rumor paints him in the way of strength," she soliloquized. As she watched, fascinated, the play of the muscles of his mighty arms.

"When he was near enough for her to see she colored at the unsolicited admiration in his eyes.

"You're glorious!" he cried, impulsively, as he deftly shot the canoe up to the rock.

"You're extremely bold," she retorted, nervously.

He smiled irrespressibly.
"I've come for you—get in," he said, peremptorily. "It needs only you, leaning against that forward thwart, to make the morning perfect."

"My goodness," she gasped, "you are a Viking!"

"You're making fun of my hair," he said, smiling. "You should see me with a hard name simply because my hair is tow-colored."

"In a moment she was seated among the pillows.

He watched her trail her fingers in the brown water awhile and then:
"The Viking," he said abruptly, "And you?"

"Jeannette Harriman, of Pittsburgh," she answered, eyeing him furtively.

He stopped paddling for a moment and looked at her in amazement.

"Not Malcolm Harriman's daughter?" he blurted.

"Yes," she said simply.

"You know who I am?" he questioned.

She nodded affirmatively.

"And yet—and yet—" he pondered.

"Well," she queried, frowning, he had seemed inclined to continue, "and yet—what?"

"Oh, nothing," he answered lamely, and fell to paddling again.

After all, he thought, what did it matter? Only a vacation episode—it could be nothing more. He would carry it out in the spirit in which he had begun.

A morning of enchantment was theirs. They visited a spot where the sharp-eyed pickerle leaped with twinkling frequency. They slipped through an Eden of immense golden-cupped water-lilies, wide open to the glory of the sun. They glided stealthily along in the shadow of the shore-fringe, until presently they saw a stag with his soft-eyed wives, come down to the shore to drink. He brought her nearer in nature than she ever before had been.

"I shall come here the first thing tomorrow morning," he said, as he helped her to her feet where he had found her. "Shall I find you here?"

"Perhaps," she answered; but there was a half-appeal in her manner when she gazed him good-bye from the hilltop.

He was gayer than she next morning, but he had not long to wait. In a few minutes she came smiling toward him down the hill.

"If you like," he said, as he helped her to her feet, "we'll visit that eagle's nest on Bald mountain. I have been up to it, and see, and seen her baby asleep."

Jeannette's eyes sparkled.

They started while the mist was still gray. Jeannette wore a red hat and coat in anticipation of the coolness of the air at the high altitude of the mountain. Shortly before noon, after a weary climb, they gained a spot where it seemed advisable to eat their luncheon.

"We must wait here until Mrs. Eagle goes preying for the family dinner," Stanford informed his companion. "Then, by hurrying, we have time to climb and take a peep at the little eaglets and get away before the old bird returns."

In a few moments they saw the mother bird soar upward with great rapidity of wings and circle over the summit.

"Now is our time," said Stanford, springing up and leading the way. "But we must hurry."

A hard scramble over a series of ragged bowlders brought them to the nest. Four young eaglets stretched out their feeble necks, their yellow beaks wide open for the expected dinner of blood-warm flesh.

"Suddenly gave a cry of dismay. "Quick! Quick!" he shouted, "and grasping the bird by the arm he rushed her away from the nest."

But the eagle was coming with the rapidity of a rocket and was upon them before they had gotten very far. At the enraged bird made straight for Jeannette. Stanford succeeded in only partially saving her from the onslaught.

One of the huge wings struck her, a glancing blow and knocked her down. The eagle was carried far beyond them by the impetus of the rush, but dropping the rabbit it had brought for its young, it circled quickly and turned to renew the attack.

Stanford looked about for a weapon.

He grasped a young scrub oak, struggling for growth in the barren soil, and tore it up by the roots. Swinging it in the air he brought it down on the eagle's head as the great bird poised over the prostrate girl to attack her with its talons.

The soil that had clung to the roots of the sapling mitigated the force of the blow, and the eagle, only partially stunned, beating its wings on the ground, its beady eyes glaring venom and hate at its assailant.

With more time now to choose a weapon, Stanford picked up a heavy rock and stepped forward to dispart the bird. But Jeannette, who had risen to her feet, stayed his arm with her hand.

"Don't!" she said, choking back her emotion, "the young birds haven't had their dinner yet."

Stanford hurried the rock from him, and picking up Jeannette in his arms, made a hasty retreat from the dangerous locality. As he felt the girl's heart beating against his own, he decided that the "vacation episode" was carrying him beyond the spot.

When he reached the spot where luncheon had been eaten he stopped and looked down at her. Her face was crimson, but she was smiling at him.

"How strong you are," she whispered, "to tear that tree up by the roots. And you carry me as easily as if I was a child."

The temptation was too strong for Stanford. He simply couldn't help it. He bent his head and kissed her.

"You belong to me!" he exclaimed fervently.

She hid her face on his shoulder, her hot cheek pressing against his neck, and although her assent was softly spoken, he heard it.

"But—but—" he stammered, "are you taking everything into consideration?"

"Yes," she answered seriously, "Am, and nothing counts but this."

"But you've known me such a short time."

"I've known you all my life—in my heart," she said quietly.

The next day Stanford received a telegram calling him back to the city, but he found time for a short call on Jeannette at the farm where she was stopping with her aunt.

But the month that intervened before her return to town gave him much time for deliberation, and he decided that the affair must revert to what he had at first termed it—"a vacation episode."

Heavy-hearted, he made his way home when he learned she had arrived. Jeannette came to him soon, and he felt his resolve weakening at the sight of her. She halted a pace or two from him when she saw the strained expression on his face.

"It is all a mistake," he said gloomily, in answer to her look of inquiry. "I should not have been so weak."

"As you like," she said coldly, elevating her chin a trifle, "but are you considering me, at all?"

"I'm considering you wholly," he retorted. "Do you think I could let you sacrifice yourself so? Think! Think what it means. Down where the great cranes among their molten loads and the clank of the rolling-mill is never still, down in the dirt and dust and sweltering heat of the furnace—there I find my level. Your life lies among such luxuries as these. You are Malcolm Harriman's daughter, his only daughter."

"You should remember first," said the girl softly, "that you are Edith Stanford. I understand enough about papa's business to know that he owes much of his success to your ingenuity. And I thought you brave."

She came a step nearer, and her approach sent a tremor through him. He leaned towards her, his hand on her shoulder, and she called softly.

"Ye-ho!" she called softly.

A smile struggled at the corners of his mouth.

"You're a Viking," she taunted. "A Viking and a bold, bold wooer. That day on the mountain when you carried me in your arms, you—you—"

He swept her toward him passionately, and the scene on the mountain was tinted in a more conventional setting.

WILL BE MARRIED TODAY

MARYSVILLE, July 3.—A very pretty home wedding is to take place tomorrow afternoon, when Miss Edith Marguerite Gibson, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gibson, is to be married to Chas. Longley Harvey of Shelburne, N. Y.

The bride will be gown in white silk and carry a bouquet of white roses. The bride will be given in marriage by her father, Rev. Mr. Thomas will perform the ceremony.

Miss Mary Tapley of St. John is to be bridesmaid, while the bridegroom will be supported by a friend from New York. Only the relatives and intimate friends of the contracting parties have been invited.

Those from out of town will include the bride's sister, Mrs. Shaw, and her husband and family of Bristol, Rhode Island; Mrs. Harold Gilbert and the Misses Gilbert of Schenectady, N. Y.; Mr. and the Misses Harvey, Shelburne, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Ewing, Miss Mary Tapley, Dr. and Mrs. Pierce Crockett of St. John. The wedding will include music from the organ, and the wedding presents, which are both numerous and beautiful, are six checks.

SCHEDULE OF WAGES.

COBALT, July 3.—A committee representing the miners' union presented a schedule of wages practically the same as that paid by many other mines to Manager Drummond of the Nipissing mines. He promised an answer on Saturday evening. Quite a number of men are working today. The miners are optimistic regarding an adjustment of the difficulties.

BOSTON, July 3.—Sailed, str. Pandosia, Wyman, for St. John and W. C. E.

HUNDREDS HAVE NARROW ESCAPE

Cool Act of Toronto Police—man Saved Many.

Runaway Truck Dashed Towards Yonge Street at Terrific Rate of Speed

—Several Slightly Injured.

TORONTO, July 3.—Going at a rate of speed estimated at from 45 to 90 miles an hour, a loaded truck weighing many tons and loaded from the back with bricks in all directions, twisting a heavy rail like a twig, and finally landing a total wreck a short distance away. No life was lost, but some two hundred people, bound down by a narrow escape of their lives.

The truck was on the tracks of the Metropolitan Railway at the top of the hill which extends for about half a mile from the steam railway crossing to Deer Park. It became loose while making a way for a passenger car. The hill is steep, and the truck gained impetus with every wheel that rolled.

It was only a little over a quarter of 8 when 8.25 in the morning and Police Constable Harold Wade was in Yonge street, north of the railway tracks, glancing up the hill he saw the truck coming. It had hardly started, but he had already attained velocity. As it was only a little over a quarter of 8, he saw it coming.

It was a black with people, for passengers were crossing over from the Metropolitan to the city railway. The truck was heading for the city, and he saw it coming. It was a black with people, for passengers were crossing over from the Metropolitan to the city railway.

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FIELDISH CRIME STARTLES QUIET QUEBEC

Daughter of Prominent Farmer Lying at Death's Door as a Result of Murderous Assault Committed by Farm Hand—Infuriated Mob in Search of the Criminal—Lynching at First Feared.

MELBOURNE, Que., July 3.—A crime, the fierceness of which has probably never been equalled in this neighborhood, was committed today near the residence of John Lynn, one of the best known farmers and dairymen in the county, who lives within a mile of the outskirts of the village of Melbourne, as a result of which his beautiful daughter, Lillian, sixteen years old, lies at death's door. About eight o'clock a. m. Lillian went to the berry field, about a quarter of a mile away from her home, to pick berries. She was seen by a neighbor, who has done work about the place for about two years, was at the same time sent to work on the public road. While supervising the shipment of milk to Montreal Mr. and Mrs. Lynn heard the screams of their daughter. They came again, and Lynn, hurrying in his direction, came upon the senseless, bleeding form of his daughter in a spot showing unmistakable signs of a fierce struggle, while the figure of Alfred Greenhill, a black man, was seen running away. The search will be continued through the night. In fact there will be no cessation until Greenhill is behind the bars if public opinion is any criterion. The motive of the crime must remain a matter of conjecture. Miss Lynn, being a very popular girl, is very popular here, having appeared as an elocutionist at an entertainment a fortnight ago.

The practical results were the formation of numerous searching parties here and elsewhere. Had Greenhill been sighted during the first flood of wrath, doubtless a murder would have been committed by the crowd. Before twelve o'clock fifty men must have been scouring the country and two hours later, as the story in any of its varied forms found its way into the outlying hamlets and farm houses, the number of pursuers must have been four times that number.

The Concealed Arms Law was suspended on account of the parties returning this evening. The would-be murderer fearing to cross the St. Francis, fled to the southwest, no doubt intending to make the C. P. R. near Eastman well in front of his pursuers. He was seen many times actually stopping to talk with some and explain his bloody appearance. Wherever the wires went, however, he was headed off and during the afternoon was seen by several persons on the scene. Farmers, business and professional men joined the hunt. At one point, Greenhill appeared in the open space and seeing two men drop their hoes and run towards him, vaulted a high fence and disappeared. The search will be continued through the night. In fact there will be no cessation until Greenhill is behind the bars if public opinion is any criterion. The motive of the crime must remain a matter of conjecture. Miss Lynn, being a very popular girl, is very popular here, having appeared as an elocutionist at an entertainment a fortnight ago.

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