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in my hands ; and I was so agitated and frightened, I could not even think coolly. It was in this way——”

“Excuse me, I’ll go and see about it,” I broke in, and hurried away to the Duke of Novarro in search of some explanation. I had to wait for him, and sat for an hour or more drumming my heels on the floor and controlling my impatience as best I could. It was close to the time of my interview at the Palace when he arrived, full of suave apologies for the delay.

“I learn that Senorita Castelar has been arrested. May I ask the reason for so unexpected a step?” I asked, getting at once to the point.

“I am very glad you have come to me, Lord Glisfoyle, although in this matter I fear I cannot give you much satisfactory information. But I have just completed another affair that you will be interested to learn concerning Senorita Castelar.”

“But this arrest, my lord?” I cried, impatiently, irritated rather than appeased by the scrupulous courtesy of his tone.

“Yes, it is undoubtedly singular ; but bear with me a moment. The other matter is also much in point. It concerns the young lady’s property, Lord Glisfoyle. An examination of the Quesada papers has convinced us——”

“But the arrest, my lord?” I interposed. “I am burning with impatience.”

“This may be in some way connected with it. We are convinced that Quesada was wrongfully withholding from his two relations property which was theirs by right, and it will be restored to Senorita Castelar, of course, if this matter is satisfactorily arranged.”

“But the arrest, my lord?” I cried for the third