

in her eyes would lurk the look of welcome.

And the man would say unto her: "Hello!" and she would answer him coyly saying: "Hello" also.

And this would mean at once the beginning of things; for man, being mostly a fool, liketh to think he cannot be fooled, and Eve, being artful, acts just foolishly enough to let the man think he is IT.

And they would talk of this and of that, but mostly of that.

And when they had spoken many words that had no meaning at all, he would say unto her: "You are very comely," and she would cast her eyes downwards and answer: "Stop yer kiddin'!"

And all the while Eve would be noticing the finery in the shop windows and would say: "O, ain't that fine!" until at last the man became of the same mind as Eve by thought transference.

And he would buy it for her and the merchant would send it to her flat.

And after that she had fixed that, she would lure him into a tea shop where they have music.

For music can charm the savage beasts and can soften the heart of stone to sentimentality.

And she would say: "Oh, this is lovely," and he would ask: "Do you like music? If so, let us to the Show to-night."

Nevertheless, all these things were but preliminaries unto the main issue.

And after that the Show was at an end, she would speak in his ear saying "I like dancing, do you?"

And he, having let himself in for it, would make answer unto her and say: "Verily, for it has been written in the Book of Life that dancing is the poetry of motion."

Yet, in his heart did he think otherwise; for modern dancing is not art, nor doth it suggest art, but is in truth suggestive only of suggestiveness and is wholly ugly.

Nevertheless, for that reason did Eve love to dance.

So they did shuffle it heavily on the flat-foot and danced the Loving-Two-Step and the Hold-Me-Close-and-Wiggle Waltz and the Goo-Goo-Eyed-Goose-Step.

And he looked bored, but she looked radiant.

Also were there other dances that are like unto nothing on earth save wrestling bouts.

And when it came to pass that the revellers had filled themselves with revelling, they would eat Lobster Mayonnaise and drink pop, for the purple vats of Burgundy are dry, and the cellars of Champagne sparkle no more.

For have not the Men of High Mind decreed it so?

And as they ate, they did talk also, and the motif running as a black thread thro' the texture of their converse was of forbidden fruit and the marvel of the taste thereof.

So it came to pass that they would say good-night.

Nevertheless, it was not to be; for Eve did use her lustrous eyes to advantage and the man, verily, even he that liketh to be thought the Lord of Creation, grovelled at her feet.

Thus did Adamus fall also.

For verily, verily it is written in the Book of Worldly Wisdom, that the female of the species is more deadly than the male, also that a face made beautiful by art is as strong as Fate and as merciless as Hunger.

And for the space of many moons thereafter would he curse himself;

Since it is written in the Book of Life: "The Folly of the fool is understandable and can be forgiven, but what can be said of the damfoolishness of him that thinketh himself wise and yet surpasseth in folly the born fool."

In the fields of destiny, a man shall reap what he has sown, and when the harvest of woe is being garnered, Eve standeth not by as a ministering angel.

Verily, verily it is so, very much so.