

LOOK ALOFT.

In the temple of life, when the wave and the tide are above, and the foot should fall, if the eye should grow dim, and the caution depart, "Look aloft," and be firm and be fearless of heart. If the friend who embraced in prosperity's glow, with a smile for each joy and a tear for each woe, should betray thee when adversity's clouds are arrayed, "Look aloft," to the friendship which never can fade. Should those who are dear—the nob of thy heart, the wife of thy bosom—in sorrow depart, "Look aloft," from the darkness and dust of the tomb. To that love which is ever in bloom, and that when death comes in history, to the heart of the future, his pull on the past, in the moment of darkness, with hope to the dawn, and a smile in the eye, "look aloft" and depart.

EDDY'S SEARCH  
—OR—  
A BRAVE BOY'S BATTLE.

A FRUITLESS SEARCH.

As may be supposed, the sudden attack in their front was totally unexpected to Eddy and Gorse, both of whom were on their guard against pursuit and an assault from the rear. As the three ruffians sprang out upon them from the shadows of the house porch close beside the street, both of the fugitives recoiled before the shock. The next instant they had waded of the three onslaught, placed themselves on their guard, and backed toward the middle of the street, seeking their place of refuge.

"I can't find Barker's friend," said Eddy, looking at the shadow of the poor little Tina, who was a bulky and fighter, a quarrelsome as he was unprincipled.

"Back there," said Eddy, in his shrill boyish treble, his blue eyes blazing like burning stars. "We are armed."

"The youngster means to make a fight for it," said Barker's friend, with a hoarse laugh. "Fighting's won't answer. Nothing less a cold steel 'll settle 'em."

He rushed upon Eddy, knife in hand. Vellis and Barker also drew knives, intending to push the affair to some quarter, while Barker's friend, upon Gorse. Simultaneously the pistols of the three ruffians rang out a deadly clime. One bullet whizzed dangerously near to Vellis; the other cut its way within an inch of Barker's ear.

The ruffians naturally recoiled, uttering imprecations in concert. Then they rallied to the assault with the ferocity of desperation. But the boy and Gorse guarded themselves at every point.

"Back down toward Clark's Point," cried Gorse, in a shrill whisper, as Eddy came near him. "We're following the them with two men in a trap."

The pair continued to follow the fugitives, their faces to the foe. Vellis and his friends were slightly exchanged. Barker received a slight wound in the shoulder from Gorse's revolver, but no one else was hurt, the shots mostly going wide of the mark.

The conduct of the three ruffians was a complete surprise to the three fugitives. They had expected to win an easy victory over the countryman and the boy, as they termed the pair. They had not expected to find them armed, and their dexterity in the use of their revolvers was as dastardly as it was unlooked for.

The noise of the conflict brought a few night-capped heads to the upper windows along the street; but drunken street brawls were very common in San Francisco on those early days, and no particular attention was excited by the scene.

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"I hardly think she remains at Oakland," said Gorse, convinced by the man's reasoning.

"Why would they bar her from the house with her at all?" said the Captain.

"The child is remarkable in appearance, as bright and keen-witted as few grown persons are. I'm afraid they have destroyed her life, and make her the bay. They would regard her knowledge of their proceedings as a danger and menace to them."

"The heart of the others echoed this fear. Yet they went to work, resuming their search with a desperate energy. Throughout the remainder of the night they went up and down the shore, seeking some trace of the lost one. When morning dawned, and people began to stir, they made inquiries in the streets, but no one had seen Tina. After the ferry-boats commenced running, they they went to the ferry-boats, and made inquiries in the boats, but no one had seen Tina. They found a clue to the lost one: She had been seen on the ferry-boats in company with a rough-looking fellow, who was not recognized. Where she had gone after landing no one knew.

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of the boy and Gorse. Ahoy, you lubbers! He fired a shot at Vellis, hitting sufficiently near to make the move one of danger to the river thief. Harris discharged a shot at Hogart. The villain paused, and in their momentary irresolution and dismay, Eddy wellnigh himself out of the grasp of the ruffians.

"It's all up for the present," said Vellis. "We must beat a retreat."

They hastened to do so, bounding up the street, and vanishing into the gloom. There was no pursuit. Eddy and Gorse thrust their empty weapons into their pockets, and with a look of satisfaction, returned to the house.

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"We'll ascertain that fact for ourselves," said one of the police officers. "Dann, guard the door. We'll take a look through the house."

Francesca offered to guide them, and led them through the dwelling from attic to cellar. No trace was found of those whom they sought.

"The birds have flown," said the officer. "The girl's not here. And I don't expect to find any of them here either. Those fellows are too old birds to be caught with chaff."

He proceeded to interrogate the old Mexican house-keeper, but the suddenly developed a remarkable stupidity, ignorance of English, and guileless innocence which were as impenetrable as a coat of mail. She said she knew nothing of Vellis or Barker, nor even their names. Could not tell where they might be, and she thought they had gone to the diggings. As for herself, she was a poor, lone widow woman, who had taken the ruffians as lodgers in the absence of her employers, knowing nothing of their character, and they had gone off without paying her. If she knew of their whereabouts, she would have told them up to the justice they merited.

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Before noon they had made up their minds that Tina was not at Oakland. They had dismissed their boat, and now returned to San Francisco, worn, big, and exhausted. They went into a restaurant and procured food, and then sat out, all together, in the street, waiting for the return of the chief of police, they told their story. Officers were sent with them to the house in Dupont street, in which Eddy and Gorse had been imprisoned. The door was opened to the party by old Francisco, the Mexican house-keeper, who led them to the room of Eddy and Gorse, and Gorse, they accompanied.

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"It's just as I thought," said Gorse, looking up at the sky. "The rough-looking fellow, who was not recognized, was the man who was seen on the ferry-boats in company with a rough-looking fellow, who was not recognized. Where she had gone after landing no one knew."

"I don't know," said Eddy, looking up at the sky. "The rough-looking fellow, who was not recognized, was the man who was seen on the ferry-boats in company with a rough-looking fellow, who was not recognized. Where she had gone after landing no one knew."

"I don't know," said Eddy, looking up at the sky. "The rough-looking fellow, who was not recognized, was the man who was seen on the ferry-boats in company with a rough-looking fellow, who was not recognized. Where she had gone after landing no one knew."

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