

and you will admire him, I am sure, when you get to know him more.

"I am afraid that will never be," she said, partly to herself and partly aloud.

Mr. Vaughn glanced toward her and faintly smiled, but 'd not say anything. He had set his mind on her marrying Vernon, but he knew there was a great battle to be fought before that would be accomplished. He was not certain that Vernon loved Lily, but all the indications were favorable. It was with Lily, he knew, that he must use all his tact. He wondered what put such strange notions into her head. How different she seemed to be growing from other young ladies of her position. Where she got such ideas from he was at a loss to understand.

The autumnal sun had long set, and the full moon was shining triumphantly in the clear night sky. Through the city streets resounded the rumbling of carriages, hurriedly driven to the doors of the Vaughn mansion; for it was the evening of the great dance, and the large oaken doors of the house long before sunset were thrown open. And nowhere was there seen a gayer throng of people than the guests, who were the pick of the best society of the city.

Crowds of onlookers blocked the pavement on both sides of the large iron gates that opened into the grounds of the mansion, through which the