

possible. She drew the rich curtains so as to leave only a streak of the crimson and golden sunset to cross the table and shimmer amidst the crystal and silver; heaped the fragrant wood and resinous cones upon the fire, placed fresh cut flowers everywhere to advantage and then retired.

The next morning she came up to find the room undisturbed and the viands untasted. She knocked at the Cardinal's door, no answer; then she went to his private chapel and back again to his chamber and still no answer. Demetrius was called, he opened the chamber door and found the bed undisturbed. Tremblingly they both went through the house, the grounds, and at last to the sacred temple into which they had never seen him enter until the day Merlina came.

There upon the marble slab covering the mortal remains of his dead Elena lay the lifeless form of Eugenio Gratiani in the prime of manhood's years.

The day after Merlina and Vane were married, some workmen were cleaning out a shoot which ran from the roof of the Basilica to the ground and into which all the rubbish from the roof was swept, and from it they dragged the remains of Beppo, the little hunchback. After his attempt to stab Vane, he rushed to the shoot, opened the trap door and jumped in; the door closed over him, and so he was ushered into eternity.