

stationed in the big railway centre, in a neighboring State, announcing his engagement to a very beautiful and charming girl. Of course, it gave many particulars as to her age, address, name, name and business of her father, as well as the usual fulsome praise of her many virtues. This was followed soon after by another letter which showed the father his son was in the depths of despair. The father of Charlie's affianced wife now refused sanction to their engagement on the ground that, through the medium of the State Board of Health of his native State, it had been ascertained Charlie's sister had been a consumptive. What was to be done? There was no denying the fact Maggie had had tuberculosis, but as she was now cured of the disease and was, indeed, married to a physician, surely no man would let that interfere in the happiness of his daughter. William Roberts wrote Charlie that, as his prospective father-in-law had invoked the records in his daughter's behalf, he should do likewise. For what had he paid for Charlie's upbringing!

Obsessed with the fear that he might find out something he should not like to know, Charlie cogitated as he read his father's letter. Love was strong within him, but it was repugnant to him to take this seemingly unfair and altogether unnecessary step. He would rather persuade her father from his tuberculosis doubts. Still, one thought would not be dissipated from his mind: "The records are there for you as for her." Finally, he resolved to go in person to read for himself his betrothed's life history. He was horrified to discover recorded against her, some three years before, one of the dangerous diseases of which he had been warned.

Of course, he could not tell her. It was all over. Would it have made any difference had he known she had innocently contracted the dread disease through a brother's kiss?