THE BRIDAL SONG

A SHORT STORY By E. Aceituna Griffin, in the Pall Mall Magazine.

She remained silent.

"He had heard you in Paris. I well ing circumstances.

music lover. The Courcelles did not him some of them, and Julian was indulge in indiscriminate praise, and he astonished at the charm and original-

"Yes, madame, I believe so. Then it

since the death of the old marquis, heaven had begun, fifteen years before, for his widow was Mademoiselle Renee de la Tour re-

instead of singing the air. There was As she sat with the letter in her lap a certain sureness of touch about the the girl was filled with seething fury. who was an excellent critic, believe that he or she was a performer of no

vitation with suitable gratitude.

ter of her invitation, after which Ju- return in three days' time, as lian took himself off into the village feared that Michelle's to collect his luggage.

la Tour was compressed into the be receiving all the attention she refollowing weeks. Her existence up till quired. then had been colorless, so that at the had no youth. of a dot had prevented her marrying, lady's comfort. and Madame de la Tour's determined During the past weeks Michelle's

at present on a visit to Paris. and for this and other reasons she de- had played him alternative

"My friend, de Courcelles, has often of one another as they pleased; so Michelle and her art were at the young man's disposal for many hours of every day, and he soon discovered that he had the privilege of listening The Comte d'Arcy was giving one of to some one who was very near a his celebrated luncheon parties in genius. It appeared that the great honor of some new acquaintances, Sir pianist Polowski had once come with Julian Armitage and his French wife, an introduction to the marquise, and and it was to Lady Armitage that his had spent some time giving gratuitous request was addressed. The comte instruction to Michelle, of whose gift request was addressed. The studied her with intense interest, for he thought very highly. The old man he had heard much of this woman, who still made a yearly pilgrimage to the had already become something of a village to stay with the cure, and to celebrity in the London world. She see his pupil, and these visits had possessed unusual beauty, unusual hitherto constituted the sole pleasure fascination, and, in spite of her youth, in Michelle's life. The rest of her days had earned the reputation for un-bounded coolness and savoir-faire. It of madame, attending to the wants was therefore the more surprising to of the poor peasants, and listening to the comte to see her change color as the outpourings of her younger sister, she said hurriedly: 'I am sorry. I do who was by no means satisfied with not play."

"But surely I cannot be mistaken, of Michelle's existence was a revela-De Courcelles raved about it to me." tion to Julian, and he marvelled at her goodness and patience under such try-

remember his telling me. He said you had extraordinary talent—and he knew."

As the friendship grew Michelle diffidently disclosed to him her one ambition. She could compose, and "Yes,' she said moodily, "I did play she desired to publish her composito him, but since then I have given it tions. Up to the present she had never had the courage to submit them to any "It is ten thousand pities," said the one, not even to Polowski, but after one, not even to Polowski, but after comte warmly, for he was a genuine much persuasion she consented to play

predicted a great future for you. Am I ity of her work.
Indiscreet to ask, madame, but is it Sir Julian who does not care for music?"
She hesitated, "Yes, he dislikes it—did this so gradually that they scarcenow I have never played since the day I married." She rose as she spoke, adding, "But we must be going, monsieur. Shall we meet again at the She had ascertained that the Armitage estates had not decreased in value. At last came an evening when, after Michelle had been playing in the "But I wonder," mused the comte dusk, she had turned to him as usual later, "why she gave it up, and what made her look so strange when I mentioned it."

There is a strange when I mentioned it." Three years previously the household made her falter, and, coming across at the Chateau de la Tour, which conto her, he began to murmur words of sisted of Madame la Marquise, her love. In spite of the unconventionalgrandaughter and two old servan's, had ity of the proceeding according to been thrown into a condition of intense French ideas, the marquise did not excitement owing to the arrival of a utter any reproof. She joyously gave visitor. Such a thing had not happened her consent, and Michelle's glimpse of

as poor as the proverbial church mouse ceived the news of her sister's engageand very proud, so she refused the ment with unmixed feelings of dismay. hospitality she could not return, and The visit to Paris to which she had lived an absolutely secluded life. The so much looked forward had not proved man, who want to be so made to be so much looked forward had not proved the so much looked forward had not proved the so much looked forward had not proved the news of her states a length of the sound to be so much looked forward had not proved the news of her states a length of the sound to be so man who upset her habits and in-vaded her privacy was Sir Julian Arm-Courcelles, her hostess, was another itage, who presented himself at the member of the old aristocracy,' and chateau without suspecting the agita- lived in faded, shabby surroundings tion his arrival might create in the which belonged, like herself, to a byinmates. Fifty-five years ago his uncle gone ago. This was a great disaphad known and loved the marquis, and, pointment to Renee. Paris, to her, finding himself in Brittany, Julian had heard some to look up the lady of whom he ment, parties, discreet but ardent adhead heard. had heard a great deal, and whose miniature, taken in a crinoline and side-curls, had now passed into his possession presence she must sit in reverent Madame de la Tour received him in silence, and for companions a few the great salon, furnished with dilapi- colorless girls, some of whom were dated but priceless Louis XV. furni-destined for the convent. At first the ture. If Julian noticed a considerable occasional presence of Raymond de difference between the simpering beauty of the foliar and the mirror beauty of the fifties and the witch- had aroused Renee's hopes. That he like lady of today he did not show it, was attracted by the beautiful visitor. The marquise thought him charming; there was no doubt. Their intercourse the reminded her of the Armitage who had been restricted, but there were had wooed her in her youth, and she unmistakable signs that Renee's charm had not failed of its effect. She was, electrified her household by asking him had not failed of its effect. She was, to stay.

and Michelle's touch of gentus, if her growing inactuation. He had growing inactuation is growing inactuation in a growing inactuation is growing inactuation. He had growing inactuation is growing inactuation in a g Julian meant to refuse, for the pros- Courcelles, whose gimlet eyes nothing pect of a stiff visit to an old lady escaped, noted her son's growing in-who would not speak a word of his fatuation, and summoned him to an language was not enticing, but while interview, with the result that Ray-he searched his vocabulary to find the mond left the following day to stay proper words in which to frame his with friends in London, and the refusal somebody in the next room be- morning after his departure Renee regan to play the accompaniment of a ceived the announcement of her sister's most haunting little song, whistling engagement to a rich Englishman.

mean order. After all, he thought, it Renee, the beauty, should be left to might be pleasanter to stay with the take her place as Madame de la Tour's marquise than to spend the night at unpaid maid. So far Michelle had inthe village inn, and he accepted her in- terposed between her and the many uncongenial tasks which waiting on a Apparently the marquise did not selfish old woman involved, but for the "It is future, while her sister mingled with my granddaughter," she said with a the gay world, for which Renee craved gesture of annoyance. Have the good- she would be at home losing youth ness, monsieur, to open that door, and and beauty in the service of an exactadame called peremptorily, "Michelle, lift only she had been at home ichelle!"

"I come, grandmamma," answered a fit will be famous, and advanced down the room.

"As she mused an idea flashed nevers and advanced down the room.

"As she mused an idea flashed nevers and then pout with the fact of Julian; and then you with the fact of Julian; and then you with the fact of Julian's engagement to Michelle, she was spared any postion to receive the Englishman! Who could discord. Renee's hands fell on the adding shyly: "I wrote it for Julian; able awkwardness in the situation, sible awkwardness in the situation, with the fact of Julian's engagement to Michelle she was spared any postion to michelle she will be famous."

"Publish it! Never!" said Michelle, with the fact of Julian's engagement to Michelle she was spared any postion to michelle she will be famous." Julian obeyed, opening the door Paris and the de Courcelles; in her leading into the adjoining room, while madame called peremptorily, "Michelle, Michelle. If only she had been at home soft voice, and a girl rose from the his choice would have fallen upon her? piano and advanced down the room. As she mused an idea flashed across She was small and badly dressed, her mind. At first she rejected it, but and the first thing that struck him it returned. Was it too late, after all? about her was that she had no pre- She got up and surveyed herself in tensions to beauty, the second that he the glass, inwardly comparing herself had never seen a more interesting to Michelle, and as she looked a slow smile overspread her features. Madame de la Tour introduced evening mademoiselle wrote dutifully Julian, and informed her granddaugh- to her grandmother to announce her would engross her thoughts, and if

"So it appears," was madame's comage of 27 she might be said to have ment after reading the note, "that our Her family belonged beautiful Renee has not enjoyed herto the old aristocracy, and in consequence it did not mix with the mod-other view, and was touched by her The absence sister's evident solicitude for the old

seclusion from the world effectually musical powers had become intensidebarred her granddaughters from any fied. Her happiness made her able to girlish pleasures. Julian found that create, and this time she produced had a younger sister, who something in which her lover recogalso lived with the marquise, and was nized greatness. They christened the piece "The Bridal Song." She had Madame was a malade imaginaire, consulted him about minor points, and cided for the present to adopt Eng- but finally they were both satisfied, lish customs, and allow her grand- and it was pronounced complete. She daughter and Julian to see as much was playing it to him at the moment

It's the Use it for champion bread, pies, all-purpose cakes, biscuits, brand. everything 0000 5 20 Western Canada Flour Mills Co., Limited. 18 when Renee returned, and it was thus; ministrations made her shudder, yet it about twenty miles away, had placed that she found them. She had driven was on Renee that she must rely for his chateau at the disposal up unperceived, and come to the door the future. How very much better it

and his face was handsome though weak. Decidedly Michelle was to be congratulated. A subtle change had come over Michelle's appearance; her Madame looked in the direction of this in the same quiet, appraising way chance that things might right themand presently her attention turned to selves. power nor originality, but she had a wonderful ear and retentive memory, and could reproduce anything she had heard, repeating every shade of expres-

Michelle in his arms. The lovers turned, and

ing as I came in?"

went on: "Had you written it? My dear, to her sister. clever, little sister, it is quite charming! Do play it again."

Michelle hesitated. The piece was Julian's; it had been composed for Julian's; it had been composed for a moment's pause she turned on the piece was Julian's.

him, and not for any one else, not even and quietly left the room.

passive observations, and took her sister's place with the old marquise, who was, however, not at all pleased a shame-faced apology, she quietly cut gotten—" she said, and her voice At the end of the week Madame de la oblige her by making no reference to Tour became indisposed, and for once a past of which they had both seen her illness was real instead of imagin-ary. Under such unusual and annoy-ing circumstances it was hardly likely the mistake. So the harmony was un-broken, Madame de la Tour smiled ing her place, and then the stillness seraphically, the lovers were selfishly was broken by a new sound. Some-The whole life-history of Michelle that were so the marquise would not e la Tour was compressed into the be receiving all the attention she re-Michelle. Michelle came, and after that was not allowed out of the old woman's sight for many days. Renee's chance had come; she was not one to neglect to take it.

Renee was very nearly content. She had a brilliant future before her and a satisfactory lover, but she had one crumpled rose-leaf. In spite of his devotion to her, Julian could not silence was an unutterable sadness underlying and very beautiful. She possessed all his conscience. He was intered appearance dared to breathe as they listened, straining their eyes, but seeing nothing.

Distinct as it was, the music was an unutterable sadness underlying was an unutterable sadness underlying its joyousness, and, as it ended with

her free to return to her waiting lover. If Michelle herself was totally un-

suspicious her grandmother was not

de to begin its use.

epsin will regulate any state had hitherto regarded as her stomach within five light, and it became suddenly clear to digest promptly, without Madame de la Tour that in losing unbers of other handsome and valuable premiums.

Your name and a sould near a so Madame de la Tour that in losing Michelle she lost all that made life

comfortable Her experience of Renee's

of the music-room, where she stood would have been if Julian had set his critically observing her sister's fiance. He was tall, distinguished-looking, ters! It was ten thousand pities that

nature had expanded, and her face the wood and smiled. The longer her had gained expression. Renee marked illness lasted, the greater would be the Although the doctor prowhat her sister was playing, and she nounced her convalescent madame guessed that she had composed it. stoutly refused to leave her room, and Renee herself was no mean musician.

her head decisively, and came into the broken down his last defences, and as in her memory, Michelle came in he was holding her

"Do you love him?" she asked, and

for her beloved Renee. Renee, however, was not accustomed to be denied, and she insisted; so at last, to which everything arranged itself. She the while the "Bridal Song," which compelled acquiescence, and all the while the "Bridal Song," which contains the state of the while the "Bridal Song," which contains the state of the while the "Bridal Song," which contains the state of the while the "Bridal Song," which contains the state of the while the "Bridal Song," which contains the state of the while the "Bridal Song," which contains the state of the while the "Bridal Song," which contains the state of the sta avoid a fuss, Michelle was obliged to had anticipated difficulties, but there Michelle had written to celebrate were none. Michelle interviewed her Michelle's stolen happiness, crashed "It is very, very good," pronounced grandmother, who was strangely out into the silence. ing malade imaginaire. She hated in her Paris and the de Courcelles; in her must publish it, cherie, and then you not yet acquainted her few friends must publish it, cherie, and then you not yet acquainted her few friends occurred. Suddenly, without warning

Renee was content to make faction, displayed great tact. She did the notes, but the result was a horwith her as a substitute for Michelle. him short, telling him that he would quivered, as if she was frightened. granddaughter away, and called for her granddaughter's altered appearance dared to breathe as

and very beautiful. She possessed all his conscience. He was intensely the arts of seduction, and in setting ashamed, and his new fiancee found out to fascinate Julian Armitage she her power had a limitation. One even was fighting for everything the most by the most large when she had been always as an unutterable sadness underlying its joyousness, and, as it ended with a last triumphal rush of melody, the final chords mingled with a sound like and rouse her, and had touched her the power had a limitation. One even was fighting for everything she most ling, when she had been playing to Julian in the twilight, she had paused, stirring the trace outside. desired. She put aside all considerations of pity for her sister, telling herself that a life such as Julian could give his wife meant more to her than it could possibly mean to Michelle's "Bridal Song." He had got while to take Michelle's place and while to take Michelle's place and multister to a gravulous old with the made now the start of the same start of the same

weak man, and no match for the wiles of the ordinary, and commented on the her or touch her.



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Julian and Lady Armitage for the first week of the honeymoon. For on Julian's conscience had ceased trouble him; he had forgotten every-thing except the beauty and charm of his bride. As soon as dinner was ove they wandered outside, but the ever ing was oppressively hot, the sk overcast, and the absolute stillness presaged thunder. They returned indoors and entered the salon, in which the toxicated with success Everything had gone as she had planned, the old

she felt as if some indefinite barrier which had been between them had been removed. For touight her power was absolute, and even as she realized this, thrill of satisfaction, sh She would test her strength tonight

sprang up to welcome her, and eager-ly presented Julian, who, however, Michelle, and they both turned. Julian julian's encircling arm, she walked soon withdrew, for he thought that began to mutter some futile explana- over to the piano, which she opened. soon withdrew, for he thought that began to mutter some ruche explanation and excuse, but Renee stood silent. Softly she began to play, and her lover, with a glint of triumph in her eyes. Who had followed her as if drawn by "What was the thing you were play- Michelle, who staggered a little, a magnet, stood leaning against the steadied herself. It was difficult to instrument watching her in the dim Michelle blushed a little, and Renee realize the enormity of their treachery light with adoring eyes. She played in a moment. When she spoke it was two pieces, and then, transfixing him with her gaze, as if she dared him to remonstrate, she broke into Michelle's bowed her head when Renee answered "Bridal Song." Julian gave a little gasp, but said nothing. He felt the treachery, but had not the strength to forbid her, and stood as if mesmer-

For the next day or two all was her grandmother observed with satistered a startled cry, then groped for

She got up hurriedly, and at the same moment there was a slight rustthat she would put up with the care- happy, and only Michelle suffered. How body close beside them was softly She pettishly waved her youngest see madame, ventured a comment on seemed oddly far away. They scarcely

"Julian . . . Julian-I am terri- FISHHAWK NEST ON TELEPHONE while to take Michelle's place and she had never heard before, nad com-responsive movement. He was she minister to a garrulous old woman, wanded her, "if you have any decency ing past her as if he saw something would be sheer waste of herself and her capabilities.

Fishnawks built their nest on the she with skin disease, the same that she had she could not. A blinding and a simultaneous crash of American Telephone and Telegraph you would do well to investigate a pre-

> could not hope to do so well in the tried to draw madame's attention to plenty of wires to hold the foundacase of the plain little elder sister. There granddaughter's state of health tion for a nest and also to protect tried to draw madame's attention to the property of the granddaughter's state of health them. They usually build in late allayed by this preparation. Get a lib

some weeks before. "Had she any recent trouble?" he

bevelled her, told the doctor that, after made- young and departed. class, given away lingered outside the door, fearing she these head. It is to page of STAR was ill, for she had eaten nothing all woven in and about the wires. It is to page of STAR day, and looked so strange. He had especially hard when the nests are day, and looked so strange. He had especially hard when the nests are docupied. Three or four years ago a occupied to take one down

When he ventured in he thought phone Topics. that she must have fainted, for she had fallen forward with her head on Household Specialty Co., Montreal her arms. He had gone to her to try BURNS, ETC.





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POLE.

Fishhawks built their nest on the Julian was exceedingly fond of his fiancee, and at first honestly fought against Renee's insidious love-making, and tried to avoid her; but he was a week man and no match for the wiles of the ordinary and commented on the hor on touch her. Bay, and build their nests in nearby scriptions. It is the simple, soothing oil of wintergreen compound known weak man, and no match for the wiles of the ordinary, and commented on the life of touch life.

of a beautiful and clever woman. Twice he was on the point of leaving the house, but each time Renee's argu-

> spring or early summer. Trouble does not show up on the ing, external remedy—D. D. D. Pre-wires unless there is a lot of wet scription—and see! Madame denied this obstinately, shedding inignant tears meanwhile because her slave had escaped her. But located and taken down. Probably in know—know positively—that your itch

Jean, the old servant who had found this case the hawks have had their will be relieved instantly, the minute French crystal moiselle had begun to play, he had It is not easy to take down one of skin.

glass, given away lingered outside the door, fearing she these nests, as the material used is Mrs. W. L. Clarke, of Laggan Alta It is not easy to take down one of skin.

was ill, for she had eaten nothing all woven in and about the wires. It is tried D. D. D., and says: recognized the music-"it was the piece occupied. Three or four years ago a or scalp that I have ever used." No moneyrequired the music in was the piece occupied. Three or four years ago a constant she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to play to Sir Julian, monsieur, before Mademoiselle Renee results she used to be she used to be she with the she will be she will b turned from Paris." and at the end he by farmhouse, as the hawks attacked Prescription write to the D. D. Lahad heard a sound like a smothered him and tore his clothing badly be- boratory. Department L. A., 23 Jordan fore he could get the nest down .- Tele-

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To make every bite of food you eat ment you decide to begin its use. of your body, you must rid your stom- out-of-order meal-interferes with digestion and of food you eat.

Take a Little Diapepsin Now causes so many sufferers of Dyspepsia, he was on the point of leaving the house, but each time Renee's argustipation. Griping, etc. Your case ments triumphed, and he stayed is no different—you are a stomach sufferer, though you may call it by some other hame; your real and only trouble sick-room, softly hummed her "Bridal is that which you eat does not digest, Song," and looked forward to the marbut quickly ferments and sours, pro- quise's convalescence, which would set

A case of Pape's Diapepsin will cost you; if whar little you eat lies like a will convince any stomach sufferer five lay by her window overlooking lump of lead on your stomach; if there minutes after taking a single dose garden. From this point of vantage is difficulty in breathing after eating, that Fermentation and Sour Stomach she could see two figures emerge from eructations of sour, undigested food is causing the misery of Indigestion. the house, and wander towards the and acid, heartburn, brash or a beich. No matter if you call your trouble wood, could catch the murmur of low of gas, you can make up your Catarrh of the Stomach, Nervousness voices, and mark something intimate mind that you need something to stop or Gastritis, or by any other name— in their attitude towards one another, food fermentation and cure indiges— always remember that a certain cure and her observation made her thoughtis waiting at any drugstore the mo- ful. Her illness and the impending

aid in the nourishment and strength Pape's Diapepsin will regulate any sch of poisons, excessive acid and minutes, and digest promptly, without stemach gas which sours your entire any fuss or discomfort all of any kind