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**LADY LAURA'S
RELEASE**
—OR—
**THE STORY OF
A SPOILED BEAUTY.**

CHAPTER IV.

The governess, Miss Aveland, had accompanied her pupil through all her travels, the result of which was that Angela's education had not been neglected for a single day; and on her return to Rood Abbey she was able to speak French and German with fluency.

For over four years mother and daughter led this pleasant wandering existence, and then Lady Rooden began to feel a longing for home. The first bitterness of her grief had begun to abate, and she told herself that she had mourned her husband well and sincerely.

He had been most devoted, and his loss was an irreparable one to her; but she was still young and beautiful, and, as her sorrow died, all her love of social life returned, and her keen sense of enjoyment, all her desire for pleasure and gaiety. True, she would miss the kindly husband who had made her days so bright, her home so happy, who had surrounded her with such loving care and tenderness; but life had innumerable sources of interest left for her yet.

When Lady Rooden first spoke to her daughter of returning home, the girl's face beamed with delight, and then suddenly grew sad.

"I am glad, mamma," she said—"glad yet sorry. We shall seem nearer to papa; but it will almost break my heart to see Rooden Abbey without him."

Four years had in a great measure healed the wound that the death of her husband had caused in Lady Rooden's heart; they had given her time to forget him, they had shown her how it was possible to live without him; but those same four years had brought Angela Rooden to look upon her father as a hero and a saint. The most reverential affection filled her heart and soul. In the ranks of the living there was no one like her father; and she worshipped his memory

with a growing and strengthen-
ardor. During those years of travel she had never lost an indefinable sense of his near presence; she had never forgotten her mother's words, that she was to think of him always as watching her from the blue skies. And now she was going back to the home she had left in such a passion of sorrow and despair a few years before—returning with her mother to begin a new life.

While Miss Aveland had lived with them, Angela had, of course, spent the greater part of her time with her in perfecting her education. Lady Rooden was somewhat of a Sybarite; she delighted in easy couches and French novels. Her daughter, although living under the same roof with her, and never having been parted from her for a day, did not understand her casually. Naturally enough, she idealized it. In her loving eyes, while others considered faults she recognized only as virtues.

When Lady Rooden and Angela returned to Rooden Abbey, Miss Aveland left them. The old home was more beautiful than ever in the eyes of the young girl who had spent such a happy childhood there, the loveliness of the dawning spring added to its attractions, and Angela was loath to leave it even for all the promised glories of London. She had reached her seventeenth year now and Lady Rooden was anxious that she should be presented at the first Drawing-room held in May.

So in May they went to town; and Angela's presentation was a great success, and society welcomed mother and daughter with open arms. Before many days had passed they were inundated with invitations and courted by all the leaders of London society. The world found Lady Rooden more beautiful and charming than ever, and it found her daughter even more beautiful than herself.

"What a curious life it is, mamma!" Angela remarked one morning, when they were dressing to attend a fashionable wedding. "It always seems to me so unreal."

"In what way, Angela? It is real enough to me."

"It gives me the impression of always being at a theatre, or on a stage," she replied. "We go from one thing to another—ridings, driving, visiting; we go to dinners, balls, gatherings; nothing occupies us for long together, and every hour brings a change. I should not like the rush of a London season always mamma."

"I should," confessed Lady Rooden; and the girl looked up in undisguised wonder at her mother.

"Would you?" she questioned; and then she flung her arms round her mother's shapely neck, and cried, "No wonder, mamma; you are so lovely, and every one loves you! It is a fancy of mine that no room is bright until you enter it."

And Lady Rooden, who delighted in nothing so much as praise, smiled at the eager young face. She enjoyed thoroughly her daughter's worshiping love and honest admiration. She liked to know that her child admired her and thought her the fairest of women.

It was a new experience to Angela to see her mother surrounded by admirers. She had idealized her so completely, and had so convinced herself that her mother's heart was enshrined in her father's memory, that she had never contemplated the possibility of her mother's contracting another alliance. She had never in her own mind separated her father from her mother. Although he was no longer on earth, they were still united in her thoughts—not parted, even though death lay between them. No girl ever wept more bitterly than did Angela when her mother took off her widow's cap and allowed her luxuriant tresses to be seen.

Lady Rooden could not understand such strange conduct.

"You ought to be pleased, Angela," she said, rebuking the girl; "I cannot even understand why you cry."

Nor could the girl herself explain the feeling of jealous love for her father's memory which made her dislike to see the outward sign of mourning laid aside.

Now, when she saw her mother surrounded by admirers, the sensation was a novel one. To see men hovering about her, trying to outvie each other in paying her attention, trying to discover who could win from her brightest smiles, astonished her. She forgot all about her own admirers in her contemplation of the new situation. It was a fresh light in which to



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view her own mother; and she was not at first quite sure whether it pained or pleased her most. She was unconscious of the admiration which she herself excited—indeed she did not care much about the fashionable life or the homage she unwittingly extorted. Hitherto she had lived more in the world of art than of men; and to herself she acknowledged that she preferred the former. She was wonderfully inexperienced in the ways of fashionable men and women. This was the result perhaps of not having any youthful friends of her own sex with whom to converse "on lovers and fashion," and the many other encouraged conversation on such matters. Many girls of twelve knew more of love and flirtations than this tall, slender girl who took such a serious view of life. She brought with her into the world of fashion and frivolity all the noble thoughts, the lofty and spiritual ideas, the tender delicate fancies and vague sweet longings which were the outcome of her peculiar temperament and of the peculiar life she had led.

CHAPTER V.

"I think," said Lady Rooden to her daughter, as the door closed after their handsome visitor, "that Captain Wynyard is, without exception, the most graceful and chivalrous man I have ever seen."

"Not that you have ever, but that you have seen for some time, mamma," corrected Angela. "You have seen papa!"

The fair face of Lady Rooden flashed and paled as her daughter uttered these words.

"My dear Angela," she said, "there is not and cannot be any comparison. Your papa stands apart from the whole world of men. I never did and never shall compare him with others. When I speak of men I never include him."

Angela kissed the beautiful face, as if in token of her satisfaction with the explanation.

"I know, mamma," she responded; "but he is always so vividly present to me. I wonder if, as the years pass on, I shall lose the curious feeling I have of his always being near me, of his seeing all that is done, and hearing all that is said? It is so real with me that, even when you said that Captain Wynyard was the most chivalrous man you had ever seen, I had an uneasy feeling it would hurt papa."

"That is a morbid feeling, Angela, and comes from the fact that you have lived more in the world of thought and memory than in the world of every-day life. We were speaking of Captain Wynyard, and I was about to observe that I admire him exceedingly—I have not met with any one in society who has pleased me so much."

"I am glad to hear it, mamma. I like you to meet pleasant people."

(To be continued.)

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Finest Railway Systems.

The only railway station without a staff in England is the High Rocks station, between Tunbridge Wells and Groombridge. It has no station-master, booking clerk, porter, booking office, or waiting-room. The trains serving it are drawn by baby engines, and the guard acts in the manifold capacity of a complete station staff.

But one need not go out of London to find stations run on almost similar lines, says an English writer. The Waterloo-City Railway, known to tens of thousands of business men, consists of two termini, one at Waterloo and the other in the City, and at least a third of its length runs "under the River Thames."

At neither station is there a station-master, porter, or ticket clerk, for you buy your ticket on the train as you do on a bus, and throw it away when you get to the other end!

There is a railway station in Derbyshire where trains stop only on one day in the week to enable the inhabitants of the village of Blackwell Mill to go shopping to Buxton!

What claims to be the shortest passenger line in the world may be seen at Grouville, not far from Douglas, Isle of Man. It is one mile long, and the gauge is only two feet. It was made to convey passengers from the entrance to Grouville Glen to the seashore. The engine looks like a toy, but is powerful and well made, and the open cars carry ten passengers.

The smallest fully working line is probably the Eskdale Railway, which runs over the seven miles which separate Ravenglass, on the west coast of Cumberland, from the foot of Schafall, the highest mountain in England.

If the engine fails to take the points and runs off the lines, passengers help the driver and guard to lift it bodily back to its proper place! This novel railway carries large quantities of goods as well as passengers, reducing the cost of road transport in a very different way by one-half.

Fireproof Defended.

British scientists contending that the fireplace is not so wasteful as it may seem, have recently completed experiments showing that the best coal-fired grates give out 25 per cent. of the heat of the fuel consumed, while gas fireplaces are nearly 60 per cent. efficient and electrical heaters about 75 per cent. Radiant heat, moreover, is said to have certain physiological advantages over warm air from a heating apparatus.

Radiated heat, travels directly through space without appreciably warming the air it traverses, although it heats any solid body it strikes. The British heating idea was explained by Prof. W. A. Bone, of the British Fuel Economy Committee.

"The more nearly conditions under which our living rooms are warmed and ventilated approach those of a warm summer's day—a cooling breeze blowing around our heads, the varying sunshine warming one side of the body, and the heated ground warming our feet—the more healthful our rooms will be; radiated heat creates these conditions."

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Combats the dingy film

It is film that makes teeth dingy—that viscid film you feel. It clings to teeth, enters crevices and stays. Food stains discolor it, then it forms thin cloudy coats. Tartar is based on film.

The ordinary tooth paste does not end film. So most teeth, in the old days, were more or less discolored.

Film also holds food substance which ferments and forms acid. It holds the acid

in contact with the teeth to cause decay. Germs breed by millions in it. They, with tartar, are the chief cause of pyorrhea.

Thus most tooth troubles are now traced to film. Under old methods, they were constantly increasing. The most careful people rarely escaped.

Two combatants now

Dental science, after long research, has found two film combatants. One acts to curdle film, one to remove it. Able authorities have amply proved their efficiency. Now leading dentists the world over are urging their daily use.

A new tooth paste has been created, based on modern research. It brings five effects now considered essential. It avoids several old mistakes.

This tooth paste is called Pepsodent. And those two great film combatants are embodied in it.

Other desired effects

Modern research has found other effects essential, and Pepsodent brings those effects. It multiplies the starch digestant in the saliva. That is there to digest starch deposits on teeth which may otherwise ferment and form acids.

It multiplies the alkalinity of the saliva. That is there to neutralize the acids which cause decay.

Thus Pepsodent gives manifold power to Nature's great tooth-protecting agents. It polishes the teeth so film less easily adheres. Old-time tooth pastes, based on soap and chalk, brought just opposite effects.

In these ways, Pepsodent is bringing a new dental era. Already it has brought to millions whiter, cleaner, safer teeth. The peoples of fifty nations are being taught to use it. And their children will get life-long benefits which your childhood missed.



**Why men's teeth
Glisten everywhere today**

The film on teeth of men who smoke becomes especially discolored. But note how men's teeth glisten nowadays—men who remove the film. Note how men and women, when they smile, see showing pretty teeth. These are Pepsodent effects, now attained by millions, largely through dental advice. They do not come by scouring teeth in any harmful way, but by scientific film removal.

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Household Notes.

A combination filling of vegetables and meat is nice baked in cabbage leaves.

Freshly baked potatoes, or scooped out tomatoes are nice stuffed with mushrooms.

A novel way in which to garnish a terrine of fowl is with fried croutons of bread.

Jellied, beet salad should be served on cabbage leaves with mayonnaise dressing.

Beans should always be soaked in water overnight before being par-boiled for baking.