

MAGIC BAKING POWDER
CONTAINS NO ALUM
COSTS NO MORE THAN THE ORDINARY KINDS

A True Diamond

CHAPTER XXI.
(Continued.)

"Antonia suggests staying in a cottage! Well, I always said she prefers common people. Indeed the girl is altogether most extraordinary. I was saying only to-day that I could not possibly keep her here, and this settles it. Oh, here is Sir Evas," and Lady Dove poured out the whole history into the ears of her patient husband.

"If she is not to come back here she had better stay where she is," said the doctor, rising. He had no time to waste over Lady Dove's fears.

"If you will allow me, Sir Evas, I will make a list of things which must be sent down to your niece. Perhaps Miss Crump will see that they are sent down and left in the back garden."

"I really can't have any communication," exclaimed Lady Dove. "What Antonia requires must be sent from Winchley. It will be a great expense, but—"

"Nonsense!" said Sir Evas. "Of course she must have all she wants. There must be some communication. After all, scarlet fever is not the plague."

"We want as little communication as possible, of course," said the doctor. "Miss Whitburn being a doctor's daughter, quite understands the importance of stamping out this scourge. I have long expected it. That part of the village is in a very unhealthy condition!"

"We can easily manage a sort of lift," said Lewis. "Let me come with you, Dr. Latham, when you have written out your list for Miss Crump?"

Lady Dove now began to think that she had made a mistake, and recovering a little from her fright, she said: "If you please, Miss Crump, put down Dr. Latham's orders. I shall go and tell Rivett to look out some necessities, but pray use every precaution. Remember how many there are in this house."

"I assure you that is our earnest wish," said Dr. Latham, as Lady Dove left the room, followed by Sir Evas.

The doctor went to the table and wrote out a list, while Lewis Waycott turned towards Miss Crump.

"By the way, Miss Crump, Miss Whitburn was full of your good news. May I congratulate you? I'm sure she will be the last person to wish anything like sadness to be connected with to-day. We must all try to do as she wishes."

"Suppose she catches it!" said Miss Crump sadly. "It will be my fault. I ought not to have left her. She is so good—so generous; but even—"

A few tears rolled down her face.

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CHAR. FARRER, JR.

while a few praised her, and recognized that she was something more than a mere harum scarum girl. Only Miss Crump, however, in her lonely room knelt down and prayed for her.

CHAPTER XXII.

Mary Thomas had never felt so proud as she did when Toney set her to work, neither had she ever worked so hard at scrubbing, cleaning, and dusting as she did when she found herself in the barricaded cottage alone with Lady Dove's niece.

"If you had lived in a humpy, Mary, you would have learnt the meaning of being clean. There, now I can breathe a little. Fresh air and clean water aren't dear, and soap's cheaper here than in the Bush. We have to make this into a cottage hospital, remember, and the nurse and doctor will be very particular."

"Oh, miss," said Mary. "I will try. I don't seem to matter in general, but I'll do it always now."

Mary would have scrubbed a nigger white had he, at the moment fallen under her influence.

"Minnie is better, isn't she, miss? He don't moan so much."

Toney was fanning the child's forehead and trying to make her drink the medicine which had arrived. There was a gate in the garden at the back of the cottage leading into a field. Dr. Latham had ordered the things to be brought there and placed by the back door; if necessary they could be drawn up from the window. Now that he knew Lady Dove's wishes on the subject, he meant to try the experiment thoroughly. Not another soul should go near the child, unless of

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course Mary or Miss Whitburn herself felt ill.

Toney's patient was in the front room. She had taken possession of the back one herself, and Mary slept in a tiny passage opening out of it. By eight o'clock everything was beautifully straight and clean, as far as the circumstances allowed. At midnight the doctor appeared again, coming in by the back way.

He told Toney all that had taken place, but not enough to satisfy her curiosity about Miss Crump, and of course he made light of Lady Dove's fears.

"I have sent away my wife and my little boy," he added, "as there may be some slight fears for them. I shall be easier if I am alone. We doctors have to be doubly careful that we do not carry the disease we pretend to cure. Has everything come that you want for the night? You and Mary must watch in turns. There is not much to be done, but the child must not be left alone."

"Poor darling, she doesn't know me now," said Toney. "Oh, Dr. Latham, she was just the sweetest child here, my first friend."

"If we pull her through, you will have done a good work. Are you strong?"

"I should think so. I don't know what it is to be ill. I have got everything I want. You should have seen Jim's face when he came. He looked so scared when he arrived with the basket." And Toney laughed happily.

"Anyhow, you have good spirits. I see. That is a great blessing."

"Pups said nurses were bound to be cheerful, but I'm not given to low spirits. Dr. Latham, how did Miss Crump look? You know it is her engagement day. I'm afraid she'll worry a little."



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"She wanted to come to you, but of course her duty is with Lady Dove. I don't think she looks fit for an emergency."

"But there is a lot of endurance in her, though, not much stamina. She hasn't had enough fresh air."

"So I should imagine. Now, have you everything you want? I ordered the sheets and some blankets."

"Oh, heaps more of everything than I had in my humpy. Sometimes, you know, we had only our 'grub and a blanket,' as our boy said. Pups could make any place look comfortable with, almost nothing. It was just something in him."

Dr. Latham went away quite charmed with his lady nurse. He really could not pity her, for Miss Whitburn looked very unlike a person requiring pity.

Toney would not leave her small patient all night. The child was certainly very ill, but her nurse was used to fevers and was not at all frightened. In the early morning, however, she went to the back room to lie down for a little while, leaving Mary to watch. Just as she was preparing to do this a pebble rattled against her window, and, looking out, she saw Sir Evas.

(To be continued.)

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