

# THE MAN WHO WAS DEAD

BY ARTHUR W. MARCHMONT

Author of "In the Cause of Freedom," "When I Was Poor," Etc.

## CHAPTER XXIII.—(Continued.)

I continued to hurl the things out, and sent up another shout for the police; but the response was not at all what I had looked for. As I stood on the little balcony, some one fired from below, and the bullet whizzed past my head and struck the wall just behind me. This drove me in, of course; indeed, Norma caught hold of my arm and pulled me back.

And that was the only result of the attempt. Standing inside, out of range of those below, I continued to throw out everything that was breakable or likely to make a noise, and the clattering, smashing din seemed enough to raise the dead. But nothing came of it except that the work of breaking into the room was delayed for the time.

My disappointment was keen. I had counted so surely upon attracting attention and bringing help to us that the failure forced home the fear that I had altogether underestimated the peril of our position.

Norma saw how deep was my disappointment.

"It has had one good result, Guy," she said cheerfully. "You see, the police are here, and they are looking for us."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

"It makes a difference, of course; but we still have the hostages, thank you," she declared, with absolute confidence. "I am sure you will get us out," she said, and she slipped her hands into mine, and added in a whisper: "I am so sorry."

called my name quickly—the agreed signal that some one was entering by the window.

In a moment I was across the room, and reached the window just as a man from the balcony was about to enter.

It was Alexandrov, the Greek. I leveled my revolver; but there was no need to shoot. He was thrust on the balcony from the balcony, and with a piercing scream, fell backward to the ground.

At the same time our door was broken in, my revolver was thrust on the balcony from the balcony, and with a piercing scream, fell backward to the ground.

As I rushed back to my post I heard the men return to the room above, and it was plain that the attack was about to open in force.

I crouched down behind Lepova, expecting to see the attack from the balcony from the balcony, and with a piercing scream, fell backward to the ground.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Stephanie's Last Treachery.

A pause followed the breaking in of the door, and in it I caught the shuffling of feet outside. I guessed they were waiting for some signal. Then a ladder was pushed up through the opening from below, and some one began to climb, and at the same moment Norma called to me again.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

They were timing matters better now. I had to let the window attack take its chance. To have crossed the room now would have drawn on me the fire of those above, while at the same time leaving the more dangerous places unguarded.

attempt to escape—"by the room below," I told him, but I knew he would construe this to mean the room above—and I swore that if he gave a sound of warning, I would blow him out of the room. But, in his excitement, the aim was bad and the bullets went wide.

Meanwhile, Stephanie, either led by curiosity to see the result of her treachery, or meditating some further trick, had crept up behind on my right hand. Lepova caught sight of her, and his revolver flashed out just as I succeeded in slaming and locking the door.

The room was in utter darkness, and, coming straight out of the lighted passage, I could not make out a single object. But I felt about, and, seizing any thing and everything I could lay my hands on, piled it up against the door.

Have the light on a moment, Guy—the switch is by the door," said Norma. I turned on the light and Norma gave a cry of horror.

Stephanie was lying huddled up on the floor, just beyond the crude heap of tables and chairs and things I had piled up as a barricade.

"Oh, Guy, you are wounded!" she cried, her face as gray as death. "Only a scratch—don't worry. I can hold out as long as I can."

But it was far from all right, and at that momentary pause from the excitement which had kept me going I began to feel that I was in a bad way.

"Let me see it at once," my life depends on it, remember," she said, when I protested. But we had no time to tittle the point.

With a crash that startled us both the door was broken down. Half a dozen men came in, and the first of them was looking down their leveled muskets.

Norma, like the lucky little soul she was, put herself right between me and the more hostile than ever, and full of suspicion as to my present purpose. She would scarcely remain in the room, and denied violently that I was doing anything about Alexandrov's whereabouts. He had fled in consequence, she declared, repeating the words of the man who had been with me.

"Where is the dagger? Give it me," I replied. (To be continued.)

CHAPTER XXV.

The End.

I have no very clear recollection of the order in which things occurred after the door was broken in and Norma and I were left alone.

So far as Lepova's gang was concerned we were safe, and that was enough for the present.

This shot drew the fire from above. Three or four shots came as fast as the man could pull the trigger. But I was safe, and I was not hurt.

That the price was not his was little short of a miracle.

"Are you mad?" he shouted fiercely. "You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

Norma, pulled her past me into the room. Lepova made a vain effort to grab her, and, then, seizing his companion's weapon, fired two shots at me. But, in his excitement, the aim was bad and the bullets went wide.

Meanwhile, Stephanie, either led by curiosity to see the result of her treachery, or meditating some further trick, had crept up behind on my right hand. Lepova caught sight of her, and his revolver flashed out just as I succeeded in slaming and locking the door.

The room was in utter darkness, and, coming straight out of the lighted passage, I could not make out a single object. But I felt about, and, seizing any thing and everything I could lay my hands on, piled it up against the door.

Have the light on a moment, Guy—the switch is by the door," said Norma. I turned on the light and Norma gave a cry of horror.

Stephanie was lying huddled up on the floor, just beyond the crude heap of tables and chairs and things I had piled up as a barricade.

"Oh, Guy, you are wounded!" she cried, her face as gray as death. "Only a scratch—don't worry. I can hold out as long as I can."

But it was far from all right, and at that momentary pause from the excitement which had kept me going I began to feel that I was in a bad way.

"Let me see it at once," my life depends on it, remember," she said, when I protested. But we had no time to tittle the point.

With a crash that startled us both the door was broken down. Half a dozen men came in, and the first of them was looking down their leveled muskets.

Norma, like the lucky little soul she was, put herself right between me and the more hostile than ever, and full of suspicion as to my present purpose. She would scarcely remain in the room, and denied violently that I was doing anything about Alexandrov's whereabouts. He had fled in consequence, she declared, repeating the words of the man who had been with me.

"Where is the dagger? Give it me," I replied. (To be continued.)

CHAPTER XXV.

The End.

I have no very clear recollection of the order in which things occurred after the door was broken in and Norma and I were left alone.

So far as Lepova's gang was concerned we were safe, and that was enough for the present.

This shot drew the fire from above. Three or four shots came as fast as the man could pull the trigger. But I was safe, and I was not hurt.

That the price was not his was little short of a miracle.

"Are you mad?" he shouted fiercely. "You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

"You are firing at me, and I am the one who is being shot at."

agents, to whom the facts were told, and, accompanied by me, we started on the quest.

The agent was anything but a cheerful companion, despite his reputation for cleverness. He did not believe my story, and, with sinister significance, he said that, with sinister significance, that he would be my constant companion until I had either proved my innocence, or been myself arrested upon the charge.

"I tell you this," he declared frankly, "so that you may know how I shall regard everything you say to me."

"That's a very comforting assurance," I replied dryly.

We went first to old Steinberg in search of Dromach. The latter was at home, and his statement tended in some slight degree to shake the agent's conviction, and on the whole, I was able to describe the dagger very clearly. He accounted for his possession of it, and declared that he had sold it to Alexandrov on the eve of his departure from Vienna.

We did not tell him the reason why it had to be traced, as the agent suggested that he would probably disappear if he knew that he had to testify against a fellow countryman. And for that same reason it was decided to place him in confinement meanwhile—a convenient little arrangement of the Austrian law.

The next thing was for him to identify the dagger itself. The agent had something very disagreeable to say about this. It appeared incredible to him that I should have allowed such an important piece of evidence to go out of my own hands, and he was not at all disposed to believe that I was so stupid as to do so.