

Let Not Man Put Asunder

the hare while the man has hunted with the hounds. It is not strange, therefore, that she should have developed an abnormal scent for danger."

"Which—?"

"Which has replaced the daring of timidity by the challenge of defiance."

"And the denial of duty."

"Yes, to some extent. Duty is one of the most misused words in the language. It is generally employed so as to mean what other people think we ought to do."

"Other people are often better judges than ourselves. They are more impartial."

"But less well-informed."

"It is the looker-on who sees most of the game."

"But not always the reasons for the play. One judges of that for one's self."

"One must go according to Hoyle."

"That is what I object to. I am not in this world to play Hoyle's game, but my own."

"But if you lose the tricks?"

"I maintain my individuality."

"That is likely to be hard on your partner."

"My partner must take care of himself," laughed Petrina.

"Some people," cried Vassall, who, sauntering up with Mrs. Faneuil, had caught the last few sentences—

"some people would call that the feeble feminine sense of honor."

"And you?"

Petrina flashed on him a look of interest. It was clear that she cared to know his point of view.

"I am too wary to risk an opinion," said Vassall, offering her a great sheaf of golden-rod and Michaelmas daisies. "I let this act and these emblems speak for me."