

Knights Who Fought the Dragon

"Mother," said Ray, an hour after, as they sat together making sandbags of some rich brocaded hangings which had been torn down for the purpose from Lady MacDonald's drawing room, "do you think people should marry more than once?"

"Some people should," said Mrs. Gilmour. "For me such a thing is unthinkable. It would be treason to my beloved. We are still married, as we always were. I could not love him less because he is out of sight. You remember what he said, 'Love like ours is eternal.' I live with him still, hold communion with him." Her eyes shone, and her small face grew radiant.

"How differently people view things!" said Ray. "Elsie has promised to marry Mr. Meredith and is perfectly happy in the transfer of her allegiance."

"Elsie's nature is calm and unemotional. I have always studied her with curiosity. Her mother was a beauty, but headstrong and imperious, and she ran away and married a man who was a dissolute scamp, but as handsome as he was worthless. You would naturally expect the child of such parents would be a lawless creature, but, though Elsie inherited her parents' beauty and in her looks resembles both of them, by some trick of atavism she is