

AMARILLY IN LOVE

safe for you to be about like this? Did you lose much blood? When —”

“Courville was right there with the first aid. The doctor will come over to-morrow and —”

“Sit down here, Mr. Derry,” she said, going toward a fallen tree. “I want to talk to you.”

He sat down beside her.

“You are very brave in the face of such a calamity, Mr. Derry; but if you only will, you can learn to use your left hand as deftly as your right, if you will be patient and persistent. You must, Mr. Derry. You won’t let the loss of your hand keep you from your work?”

He was silent for a moment.

“But, Amarilly, you know I am not long on patience, not that kind. To succeed and keep up the pace, I must have a constant spur. Will you promise to help me in my need and keep me eternally at it, as you used to do in our studio days when I would get lazy and try to procrastinate?”

“Indeed, I will, Mr. Derry,” she promised eagerly. “I’ll come to your studio every day and make you work.”