

in the hall, rushed into the room. The other man held Elspeth by the wrist.

"Take the other woman's hands;" he yelled, "till I can tie up this one and see what I can do for meinherr." He whipped a leather strap out of his pocket. Elspeth opened her eyes as the strap cut her wrists. Her captor left her securely tied and knelt by the body of the General, which had fallen face downward. He was trying to turn it over when the front door banged. Heavy footsteps sounded on the stairs and Carl stood in the doorway.

"What does this mean?" he said. "Elspeth!"

She did not speak. He turned to the man who held Madame Cortlandt. The sentry explained in a few words.

"Meinherr ordered that she be given to the soldiers and then shot," he ended.

Carl set his jaw and his face paled.

"The General is now dead, so I am in charge here. As your superior officer, I will change the orders. Go to the barracks and report all that has occurred. Exonerate madame of any complicity in this plot. I will take charge of the Fraulein, and you will have the proper authorities here in half an hour. Now go."

Carl left the room with them and ran upstairs.

As the two men left the front door, he returned to the room with a warm coat and cap of his own for Elspeth. He cut the straps on her wrists and helped her to sit up, bringing her a glass of water to revive her.

"Try to come to," he said tenderly. "Elspeth I want you to come with me. Marianne is dead, dear, and happier so. Come, we will go in the aeroplane. Say good-bye to madame."

Elspeth sat up and took madame's hand. "You have been so good to us, dear madame. I hate to leave you so."

"Dear child, it is best. I have been exonerated, and nothing will happen to me." As she spoke madame placed a sofa cushion under the head of

Marianne. Elspeth helped her with brimming eyes. Then she turned to Carl.

"Where can we go?" she said.

"The American troops have landed in France," Carl answered. "We will fly over the German lines until dark, and then land behind the American lines. I have finished with Germany and the Germans. Come, Elspeth, we have only a short time to get off. I will tell you my plan on the way."

He helped her to her feet and she kissed madame good-bye. Then Carl placed his hand over her eyes and led her from the room and out of the back door.

Once outside, they hurried across the field behind the house to the hangar. While Carl was unlocking the door and preparing the machine for flight, he told her what had happened.

"I have been given orders," he said, "which I cannot carry out. I returned to tell my Uncle so, and to take the punishment, which is death. When I heard of the orders which had been given about you, I suddenly thought of this plan."

"You will be taken prisoner," said Elspeth as she turned up her coat collar.

"At first, yes. We will give ourselves up, of course. But I am an American citizen. I have been one for five years. And I think I can convince the authorities that I wish the Allies to annihilate the brute force in Germany. Besides which, I can give much valuable information."

"Oh, Carl, you never told me that you are an American citizen," Elspeth said reproachfully.

"I couldn't, dear," he said, pulling on his driving gloves. "I had enlisted in the German army at the time that the United States was neutral. I had a right to, then, and I deemed it my duty to keep to my oath. I do not feel that way now. As soon as I regain my American nationality, we will be married. Meanwhile some hospital matron will look