

gone so far, she must now give Father O'Hagan her full confidence. Great was his amazement as he listened. He uplifted his hands more than once, and hung breathless on her words. Life moved slowly, and in the main uneventfully, in that quiet parish. Never in the whole of Father O'Hagan's ministry had such exciting events followed so quickly on the heels of each other.

"I can scarcely take it all in, Kitty. You are here in the flesh talking to me, telling me in one breath that you are Squire Lyndon's wife, and in the next that he is no squire at all, but will have to give way to his half-brother so strangely restored from the dead. But it will be a terrible reckoning for Lady Lyndon."

"Father O'Hagan," said Kitty, nervously rising, "as nothing is known as it here, will you say nothing? I may be doing great wrong even to talk as it. I am so perplexed I know not what I do."

"My child, you need not fear. Many a secret in Glendalough is safe with me. I shall not betray you. Well, what are you going to do? Is it to Ballymore or to Arraghvanna you wish me to take you now?"

"Home, home to me mother an' to Ted," she said, feverishly.

"Ted is a desperate man, Kitty. You will be hard put to it to convince him the story you have told me is true."

Kitty winced, and glanced wistfully at the priest's benevolent face.

"You will help me, father. I have nobody but you," she said, simply. Father O'Hagan turned away suddenly, and wiped from his kind old eye a surreptitious tear. Then he made ready, without another word,