

Their Hearts' Desire

"and you look like an angel—or madonna, or something, I don't know what. Now kiss me, and obey instructions. This may be a small affair, but it has to go off with some degree of system and *éclat*. Now don't forget," admonishing with her forefinger, "that as soon as you hear the first notes—I mean——" correcting herself hastily, "I mean as soon as the clock strikes, you are to come."

"Why can't I go down now, with you? I'm ready."

"Why, Barbara, my dear, I wouldn't think of allowing it. Who ever heard of a decorous bride presenting herself at the altar ahead of time?" and Mrs. Strong tried to frown. "I'm shocked. You, of all people! Besides, I want a moment to look over the groom, in the absence of the female members of his family, and see that the flowers and candles are in working order. Come, children."

"Oh, please let them wait and come with