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Head Office: TORONTO

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than kin and more than kind! What fun!"

Fenella was silent for a moment, then she said slowly: "But your brother never takes any notice of Miss Mauleverer. I've seen them both together, and he practically ignores her."

"Oh, men of Laurie's type often do that. They take no notice of the girl they mean to marry. It's the other ones they run after."

"Theo, don't say such things! it makes me miserable." Fenella turned away with a sob.

"Fen! Makes you miserable! Good Lord! you can't mean—you aren't going to say you're fond of Laurie. If so, Heaven help you!"

"Why?" Fenella checked her tears.

"Because, for one thing, his future is arranged, and there's no room for you in it."

"And the other thing?"

"Well—" Theo hesitated. "Laurie isn't sentimental, you know. He's too modern to be anything but common place. He'll never fall in love."

Fenella looked at her desperately. "Theo—we are engaged."

"Great Hat!" exclaimed the girl; "not really? Since when?"

"To-day. This afternoon just before dinner. He said he couldn't go away without telling me, but we agreed to keep it a secret at present. He's going to see if he can talk your father round when he comes home again at the end of the month. It's his long leave then, so he'll have time to do it diplomatically. Oh, Theo! I'm so awfully happy—and yet I am afraid to be. He said I might tell you, if I wanted to—just you and Agnes—no one else."

"That's why," said Theo, "you were pranking at the glass. I understand it all now." She gave a long whistle. "Well! I can see breakers ahead."

"You think that your people—?" stammered Fenella.

"I don't think—I know."

"But they can't force Laurie to marry the Mauleverer girl or anyone else, if he doesn't choose to."

"They can make things precious uncomfortable if he doesn't though. He would have to leave the regiment, if father docked his allowance."

"BUT it would be shameful," Fenella observed, "of your father to do that. I haven't any money—only forty pounds a year—but that's my only drawback."

"That's quite enough, though, to put a lid on it," said Theo. "If I had no prospects Tubby Mauleverer wouldn't look at me—I'm quite aware of that. Still, he's rather a duck, and he dances well—Oh, Fen! I can do the Yankee tangle. Tubby taught me."

She danced across the room, while Fenella, thinking deeply, brushed her hair. In a few moments, Theo, out of breath, sank down beside her and, resting her hand on Fenella's knee, said, "How did he propose?"

Fenella laid down her brush, and murmured dreamily: "He said, 'You look ripping to-day.'"

"Was that all? I don't call that a proposal."

"He said," continued Fenella, "But you always do look ripping; that's what I like about you, little girl."

"Like? That isn't much to start housekeeping on. But, of course, Laurie has no imagination—no brains worth mentioning. He makes a good enough soldier, but I bet he's a dull lover."

Fenella drew her strands of hair through her fingers and went on, half to Theo and half to herself: "He said, 'When I hold you in my arms, I feel as if I was holding flowers, and music, and moonlight, and everything that is ideal in life.'"

Theo lifted up her head and remarked: "Rot! Laurie never talked like that. You're making it up."

"He called me his Dream Girl," continued Fenella.

Theo shook her gently. "You're pulling my leg," she said. "I know what he did say really—'Look here, old dear, suppose we run in double harness!'"

Fenella smiled. "Is that what Mr.

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