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A Lover's Pilgrimage.

By Richard LeGallienne.

when he had not been in love. From his earliest boyhood, falling in love had been a habit with him, and his heart, if he might be said to retain possession of an organ that was always being lost to some new face, was a sort of senti-mental graveyard, a veritable necropolis of dead love-affairs—dead, but unforgotten; for, incorrigible lover as Sid was, his memory would sometimes go flitting from grave to grave, like a butterfly, philandering even with the past.

In spite of these excursions, and in defiance of the apparent paradox of the statement, Sid Norton found himself in love-for the first and last time. This he said of himself gravely, not only in private to the lady who was credited with this marvel, but also in public to his intimate friends. He said turously.

Sid Norton could not recall a time bliss. The something so "utter" in hen he had not been in love. From Sid's look touched Rosamund's elfish sense of humor, and, though she was just as much in love herself, she could not refrain from a gay little teasing

"Is he so happy, little boy?" she said, lifting up his chin, and looking whimsically into his face.

Sid's answer was silent and long, and when it was ended, Rosamund continued, holding his face at arm's length, and looking into it with quizzical seri-

"But, aren't you just a little fright-

ened sometimes?"
"Frightened?"
"Yes! when you think that—it's for

"Ah! thank God," answered Sid rap-



"If you refuse I shall always feel that you were afraid of it, secretly afraid that the temptations of it would be too strong for your faith."

it, and there was no doubt that he l meant it.

Now Rosamund Lowther was an exceedingly clever young woman, an adept in the management of the emotional male, and easily Sid Norton's match in experienced flirtation. The friends of both watched the progress of their sudden volcanic attachment with cynical expectancy, and when, after six months of a trance-like courtship, during which it might be said that the infatuated pair had never taken their eyes off each other, Sid Norton suddently sailed for Europe, you can imacaused. Neither vouchsafed any explanation; their engagement remained intact, at all events there was no formal bulletin to the contrary; and the thing was a piquant mystery to all but the two concerned. For them it was

their whimsical secret. One late summer afternoon a week or two before, the two enamored ones had been seated side by side in the old orchard of the Lowther country home. Both were very evidently happy, but Sid's face was absolutely idiotic with much of a fancy it is."

"No, but think-for life! No more pretty flirtations, no more butterfly by-paths—only me—mc—till the end. Be honest-doesn't that make cold shivers run up and down your back?'

"You angel," exclaimed the abject one, attempting to answer her as before.

"No, no; listen to me. I am serious. Do you realize that you are in a cage, my cage, for life-that escape is impossible—that it will be in vain to beat on the bars—that only I have the key -that you are there for better or for worse—that you are there, I repeat, for gine the sensation and comment it life—that there is no help for it—nothing to do but make the best of it-do you realize that?"

The sense of certitude, of absolute possession, which Rosamund, comedian as she was, infused into her voice, was irresistible, and Sid laughed, laughed for jov that the girl he loved had such

attractive brains as well. "What a delightful fancy!" he ex-

"Fancy, do you call it? Try and escape, my boy, and you will see how "Divine, ac mean; Oh, E that it is tri and throw it want to be fr "No use i .oss of the co

August, 19

"My poor l ly, in a cares really can't h you, you who freedom, you wanderer. it? Tell me man, as they of your hear bit wistful so

"Never," a tious sincerit "Never! ever feel a li of your old would be like

Sid shook Rosamund Sid's world, the main lin tory, and kn ous divinitie

Besides, Sid, with known his heart on by the public entitled "Th

ume consiste to various la time to tim devoted; an figured und identities we gossips of S been a thorr met and lov which she by using to the volume v as she turne riment in he

meditated se "I do wish me forget th it were at the have the w will, to-morn

"Oh, that rupted Rosa I should still