On the Bosporus

A Turkish Love Story

BY GERTRUDE E. MOREHOUSE

************* Seima and Rabieh, two little Turkish girls, the former sixteen the latter seventeen, living in Constantinople, went one day for a walk together along the bank of the Bosporus. The location of Constantinople is beautiful, and since Leander swam what was then called the Hellespont to visit Hero on the opposite shore it has been associated with romance. History comes in for its share of interest from the time Constantine made the city on its European bank the capital of the

Roman empire. These two Turkish girls each wore the charshaf, the long gown of the women of that country, and veils over their faces. The custom of keeping the face covered is not as obligatory among Turkish women as formerly, and some of them dress in European costume. Yet these girls, being very young and unmarried, did not think of



lifting their vells while walking where they would be liable to meet men. But coming to a grassy spot, where their faces would be to the water, they sat themselves down and, throwing their veils back, permitted the cool air to

fan their faces. The Bosporus was covered with all sorts of craft, from the skiff to the ocean steamer lying at anchor, while on the opposite shore towered a profusion of buildings, minarets and trees. The boats did not come very near the slope on which the girls were sitting, so there was no necessity for them to let down their veils. They sat looking at the various craft out on the water, now a little steamer plying between different points on the strait, now a motorboat and now a small sailer with leg-of-mutton sails. It was all so charming, so soothing, the breeze was so refreshing that the maidens reclined on the slope, Rabieh laying her

nead in Selma's lap. It was not long before Rabieh was dozing and Selma was blinking. There was a sharp point on one side of them which cut off the shore in that direction. A rowboat came round the point and passed within a few yards of them. Selma, who was nodding, suddenly started at seeing a young man with a pair of oars in his hands look-

At sixteen a girl may be captured by a look. The young man, who was but. a few years Selma's senior, was wrapt in admiration and expressed it in every feature of his face. To Selma he seemed so beautiful that for a moment she forgot to drop her veil. Then, remembering to do so, she shut off what was to the young man a vision of love-

"Rabieh." exclaimed Selma, shaking her friend, "wake up and let down your veil! That boat you see pulling away came very near us. The young man in it is, oh, so beautiful! He has a face that must have been copied from that of Allah."

Rabieh yawned, arose, and the girls walked on.

It was not long after this that Selma and her mother were crossing the Bosporus in one of the little steamers used for ferriage. They were seated in the harem, as all women's apartments in Turkey are called, and were unveiled. A flutter of wind blew aside a window curtain, and there on the deck without sat the young man who had looked upon Selma while she was sitting on the shore. For the second time the two pairs of eyes met, and for the second time through them two

hearts leaped toward each other. After that Selma saw the young man several times, though he did not see her, for she was always veiled. Once they passed each other on the Galata gious ceremony corresponding to those bridge, once in Stamboul and again in of European peoples is required. The Scutari. Every time she met him she marriage with the Moslem is simply manson, Bates & studied his face and either saw or fan taking possession of his wife,

cled she saw the wrapt expression of a

At the meeting in Stamboul, Selma was walking with her Aunt Lella, "That is Orkhan, the son of a very lear friend of mine. said the aunt. 'Is die a fine goung man? asked selma, with a tremor in her voice that she could scarcely conceal.

"A very tine young man indeed." There was silence for some time between them, during which Leila had forgotten having met Orkhan. Presently Selma said: "Aunt Leila, when will mamma ar-

range a marriage for me?" I don't know, child, Do you wish "Certainly. Doesn't every girl wish

to be married?" Well, dear, I will speak to mamma

Soon after this conversation Selma's mother, Gulistan, at her sister's suggestion determined to look about for a husband for Selma. She knew no men personally-Turkish women know no one but those of their own sex-so she made inquiries among her friends for a marriageable young man. Aunt Leila also took a hand in the matter and quite naturally called on Orkhan's mother. Mikri, to ask if a match could be arranged between Orkhan and Selma. Mikri said she would see about it. One day Selma overheard her mother and her aunt talking about getting her

"Mikri says," said Leila, "that she proposed to Orkhan to get a wife for im, but he will not marry; that he is looking for a girl he has seen on the bank of the Bosporus and again on a steamer. If he can find her he will

marry her, but no one else." his was very harrowing to Selma. The man she desired wanted her, and she wanted him, but could not find her. He must not be informed who or where she was, because a Turk sees his bride's face for the first time when be lifts her veil immediately after the wedding ceremony. An American girl would have found a dozen ways to make herself known without appearing to have anything to do with the matter. But Turkish women, e pecially the girls, are very helpless.

But Aunt Leila was a woman, and even a Turkish woman likes to have her own way. She knew nothing of the meeting between her niece and Orkhan, but his mother was the only woman she knew who had a marriageable son, and she determined to get him for Selma. Leila was wealthy, and she offered Mikri a large dowry for Selma if her marriage with Orkcould be brought about. Mikri told her son that he must stop dreaming about the girl he had seen and, like a dutiful son, marry the woman she had provided for him. He promised to think about it and at last gave in because he need not be restricted to one wife and if he ever found the girl with whom he had fallen in love he could marry her as well.

One day Gulistan told her daughter that she had found a husband for her and that they must begin to make preparations for the wedding. Of late years there is not always an objection to letting the bride know some thing of the appearance of the man she is to marry. Gulistan, not dream ing that Selma had ever seen Orkhan. showed her his picture, telling her that he was to be her husband. Selma, who had been almost crazed at the thought of marrying any one except the man she loved, on seeing the photo graph was like one reprieved just be fore an expected execution. How she ever concealed her emotion she never

Meanwhile Orkhan continued to look for the girl on whom he had set his heart, for the expense of living has risen in Turkey as well as elsewhere. and only wealthy men can afford more than one wife. The young man was very miserable, for he wished to find the girl he loved in time to break with the wife his mother had provided for But since he was permitted to look upon the face of no woman except his wife how could he find her? He had passed her three times without recognizing her, she being veiled.

The wedding day came, and he had not found her. The women were seated, most of them smoking cigarettes and eating sweetmeats. Then they were taken to inspect the apartments to be occupied by the bride and groom, in which were the wedding presents and the trousseau, the latter including articles of apparel belonging to the groom. Then the guests were seated in a large room to await the entrance of the wedding party. The bride, veiled, was brought to the door of the house, where she was met by the groom. He led her into the house and past the guests, who were elbowing one another to get a view of the bridal pair, into a chamber, the door of which was closed behind them.

This is the moment when at Turkish weddings the groom lifts his bride's veil and for the first time looks upon her face. Orkhan had proceeded thus far like one going to a funeral rather than a wedding. How the bride looked no one could tell, for her face was covered. The two stood alone. The groom, conforming to what was

expected of him, raised the veil. A pretty subject for an artist would be this incident-the man's face changing from indifference to surprise and delight at recognizing the girl he loved, she looking up at him lovingly, enjoying his surprise, mingling her happiness with his. Then they were lock-

ed in a long embrace. Curiously enough, there is no other marriage ceremony in Turkey than betrothal some time before. No reli-

ANY DYSPEPTIC

By Taking "Fruit-a-tives" Says Gapt. Swan

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illivan to a close. He was or more than twenty years at Men and Boys silk ties in Christe state prison. Dr. Dudley Suspenders, 15c to 75c. tributed his downfall to drink. weetheart, retracted her plea of Mocha, 75c to \$1.50. t guilty to being an accessory Indian tan Shoepacks, infants the case and pleaded guilty. le was sentenced to not less an one and a half years nor ore than three years in the

indictment for murder brown and black for \$5 to \$6. ainst Kate Michaud was not essed and she was released. Ambrose Bridge, the Sullivan rl's lover, arraigned for being accessory to an illegal operion entered a plea of not guilty id was remanded to jail.

ate prison, recommending two

Alden Boulieu, who was found tilty of the murder of Emma nsen, at Caribou, was given a e sentence in state prison.

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XMAS, 1914

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Spoons and Dessert Spoons.

Many new and useful dishes Manicure Sets 2, 2.50, \$3. Houlton, Me., Dec. 10, - Dr. this year. Two special lines of Collar, and Cuffs, Neckties, onel E. Dudley, pleaded guilty Japanese and China that for Handkerchiefs, Gloves and Work manslaughter and brought his quality and design cannot be Boxes from 40c to \$2.00. ial for the murder of Mildred beat. Dinner Sets in China and Hand Mirrors from 25c to \$1.50. Toilet Sets from 2 to \$7.

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> Child's size, 8 to 10, 75c Misses and Boys, 11 to 2, 90c Ladres' size for \$1.25. Mens' size for \$1.75. Boys and Mens Uil Tan Shoe- Embroidered packs. Boys Mackinaw Coats in red and black, blue and black,

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Mens' Fest Slippers 90c. Mens' Carpet Slippers 60c. Womens' Felt Shppers 25c, suc and soc. Misses' Felt Slippers 20c, 40c, 60c. Children's Felt Slippers 15c, 40c. A full line of Boots for Men, Women and Children in all the from 16 to \$75,

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Mrs. William Martin, pro-

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Table Linen at 50c, 65c, 75c and \$1.00 per yard. Napkins, 1 to \$3 doz. Tray Cloths, 30c, 35c, 50c, 75c. stand covers.

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Astrachan Dog and Muskrat, Bureaus from 7.50 to \$25. from 28 to \$75. A few Ladies fur lined coats Dining Tables, round and square slightly damaged will be sold at Fur Robes in Rocky Bear, Brown and Black from \$13.50 to \$18.

\$9.50 to \$13.50. BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS! 2 to \$9.00.

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-LADIES NECKWEAR Fancy China Salad Bowls 25c, A large stock of the very, new-Chocolate Sets, 2.35, 1.50, 3.00, est in fancy collars and collar and cuffs, 25c to 75c.

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and Silk for 5c to 75c-UNDERSKIRTS Colored Tafeta Silk at \$3.

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Women, Boys' and Girls'. Mens' 1 buckle \$1.50.

Womens' 2 buckle \$1.90 Womens' 3 buckle 2.25. Children's 2 buckle \$1.40. Misses' 2 buckle 1.50.

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