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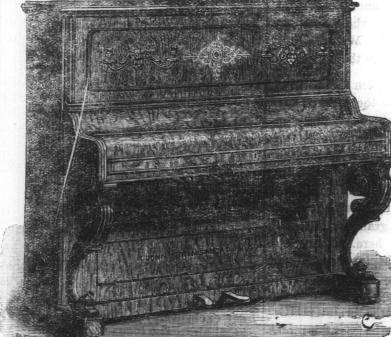
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CAMERON'S "SHADOW LOVE

By the Author of Dora Thorne.

CHAPTER XXVI. (Continued.)

And then Lady Davenant pressed Mis Cam eron to call upon her; and it was rather to b free from her importunities than from any great desire to comply with her wish that Adelaide promised that she would do so on the

'Then we can talk over the ball,' said Lady Davenant, with supreme satisfaction. She had attained the summit of her wishes, and was content for the rest of the evening to see Miss Cameron surrounded by her numerous

But the night that had passed so quickly in the ball-room was sad enough for Lady Ryle-

'Why should the beauty of that fair face haunt me?' she cried, passionately. 'What is it to me? It never won one thought of my husband's from me. Why should I think of it?

But she did think of it, and thinking of it made her more than ever impatient for the time when she should know the secret of the will. She could not rest until she had made further progress toward her one great aim. She resolved that on the morning following she would call on Lady Davenant. Her ladyship had always liked talking about parties and balls with her. One of her greatest reasons for liking Miss Cameron was because she was such an intelligent listener.

Margarita knew that Lady Davenant and the young heiress would meet at the ball; she knew also that, if Miss Cameron had said anything particular, Lady Davenant would tell it to her. She could not rest until the hour came when she knew her ladyship would have recovered from her fatigue, and would be pleased to see her.

Lady Davenant smiled as Miss Avenel wa shown into her boudoir. She was the picture of elegant grace and languor, half sitting and half reclining on a soft couch, with a cup of chocolate on the little table by her side. She held out her hand to Margarita-an unusual condescension, and a sign that she was in marvelously good humor.

'Sit down, Miss Avenel,' she said. 'I am very tired this morning-I over-exerted myself last evening. It was a very pleasant

Margarita, who remembered of old that any nterruption of her ladyship's flow of eloquence was fatal, took her seat in silence. And then Lady Lavenant gave an animated description of the rooms, the dresses, the company.

'I think Miss Cameron was by far the loveliest girl in the room,' she said; 'and most of the gentlemen were evidently of my opinion. Lord Ilderscombe was greatly charmed with

'I should imagine her to be very charming, put in Margarita, gently.

'She is more than that. I am not often enthusiastic about people, but I assure you that I am quite in love with her myself. She has promised to come and see me. Miss Avenel, did you not tell me that you wished for an engagement as companion?'

'Yes,' replied Margarita, breathlessly.

'I had that impression. Madame de Valmy, very accomplished French lady, has been living with Miss Cameron in that capacity, but I am told she has had some property left her in France, and is compelled to reside there. may mention that it was not Miss Cameron herself who told me, but one of her friends.'

Margarita could not speak-the beating of her heart was almost loud enough to be heard. Lady Davenant continued-

'She will be almost sure to want some one in Madame de Valmy's place, I should think. ' Heaven has willed it!' Margarita was saying to herself. 'I have no scruple-no fear.

Heaven has willed it!" She could not answer Lady Davenant; sh opened her lips to speak, but the sound died away on them.

'I was thinking,' resumed Lady Davenant, that, if you still persisted in your wish, and Miss Cameron said anything to me, I could name vou to ber.'

'I should be very grateful to you,' said Margarits, faintly; 'you could not do me

'I am sure, my dear Miss Avenel, that it will give me great pleasure to be of service to

you. Of course the fact of having lived in a family like mine will be a great advantage to

Before she had time to reply the door of the room opened, and a footman announced, Miss Cameron. The next moment the beautiful golden-haired vision came sweeping into the room. Margarita rose, and the two rivals stood face to face at last.

Lady Davenant received her visitor with the greatest empressement. She made every possible inquiry about her health, and then, seeing Margarita standing, introduced her in a few brief words. Brief as the words were, they showed Miss Cameron what she was intended to see—that Miss Avenel was what Lady Davenant called 'an inferior.'

'The young lady who was kind enough to take charge of my children;' and Margarita thought to herself with a proud, bitter smile If they only knew my real name-if they only knew that it is Lady Rylestone and not the poor governess whom they are patroniz-

Adelaide spoke some kind words to her. Margarita's answer was a bow. Her impulse was to seize the young heiress, and to hold her white hands tightly, and say, 'Why have you taken my husband's money? What is the secret of the will?' But she controlled herself. She looked silently for a minute at the radiant loveliness of the fair face, and then with a bow to both ladies left the room.

'Dear Lady Davenant,' cried Adelaide, who is that beautiful girl? She looks just as though she had come out of an old Spanish picture. What a dark, tender, charming face !' Lady Davenant was delighted.

'She is Miss Avenel. She was governess to my children, and she is an accomplished, well-bred girl.'

'A governess?' repeated Adelaide. 'And she a governess now?'

'No. She is seeking an engagement as companion,' replied Lady Davenant. And then Miss Cameron, with a little flush on her

'As companion? That is strange. For the last week I have been trying to find a companion. Madame de Valmy is leaving me. must see Miss Avenel again.

CHAPTER XXVII.

'HEAVEN has willed it!' cried Margarita Rylestone to herself, as she left Lady Davenant's villa. It did not occur to her that, although she had met Lady Davenant and Miss Cameron at Cowes by perhaps a strange coincidence, it was she herself who had planned going thither. The two ladies might have been there for years and it would not have affected her unless she herself had elected to

Her heart beat with emotion. She had been face to face with her rival; she had heard the voice of this girl who lived in luxury on her husband's fortune. She had met her, and the passionate desire of long weeks was gratified. Still there was much to fear. Miss Cameron had seen her, and might not like her; she might decline to offer her the engagement, she might prefer some one older. If so, what should she do?

'I will prepare myself for all emergencies, she said; 'if I may not go to Walton as companion to its mistress, I will go as maid. is uncertain how I shall go, but nothing but death shall prevent my going.'

And then her thoughts returned to the lovely face and the sweet clear voice of her rival.

'Pitilessly sweet!' she thought to herself. Perhaps she used the charm of her face and her voice to win my husband's money.'

She waited through the day in a state of feverish suspense; she seemed so nearly on the point of gaining all she wanted, and yet so far off. One word of refusal from Miss Cameron, and all her hopes would be destroyed; moreover, her difficulties would be increased tenfold.

But in the evening, as she sat in the sittingroom of the house where she had taken apartments, a footman came and asked to see Miss Avenel.' Lady Davenant had sent a note, and she wished Miss Avenel to have it

Margarita took the note, and when the servant had gone away she opened it. The con-

'MY DEAR MISS AVENEL, -Miss Cameron told me this morning that she was looking for some lady to live with her as companion. I mentioned you, and she seemed delighted. I think she has taken a fancy to you. I promised to ask you to call upon her at the Ranegond Hotel to-morrow morning. I wish you Yours faithfully,

> L. DAVENANT. (To be continued.)

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All vessels docked with cargo on board will be charged 20 cents per ton for such cargo.

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