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For Love of a Woman:

New Romeo and Juliet.

CHAPTER III.

"IF I SHOULD FAIL!"

"I am so sorry I've kept you as she threw her hat on the sofa and

lie open air-"

"It wasn't cows," she broke in, trying to speak in a matter-of-fact

quoted, failing to see the unsual col- right. Yes, you are right," he added, that she was making a mere pretence training. Yes, I know what you mean

gan walking up and down the room, back, his head drooping, his glitterng the matter with you to-night. eyes fixed on the floor.

but she made another effort, for

you know who lives in that ace on the hill, Jeffrey, the owers, it is called?"

ook his head with distinct in

ne marquis or other. What atter?" he added, impatient-

saw the nephew of the maris a marquis—this after-

> essary. By the way. r you without having acting of the play at Before Heaven I have had no thought

a most important moment. A detail gether, make or mar the whole."

She made yet another effort. "I was going to tell you about the

He started, and, stopping in his walk, confronted her with alarm in

"What accident? I had only just left the theatre; it was all right then. Oh! you allude to the man who tumbled off the horse? Never mind; put it out of your head; don't think of anything but your part. Have you

smile. It was, indeed, utterly useess to make any further attempt.

Doris rose and opened her lips; then, with a sudden blush, that was as quickly followed by a strange pal-"I have been in lor, she went to him and gently took

"Not to-night, not again, Jeffrey, "Cows?" he said, absently. "There she said, with a nervousness that was mind. Rachel, be angry; but"-she looked from side night. Don't askbme."

> He nodded once or twice, looking at her meditatively.

"I think I understand," he said, as if to himself. "You are afraid of get-"My kingdom for a horse," he ting hackneyed? Perhaps you are

guilty sense of having deceived him.

"It is not that," she faltered, "but

no such word for us

He broke off in alarm, for he could ris knew that it was hopeless to feel that she was crying softly, and ot to speak of anything but the crying was by no means one of Dor-

She raised her head, and, hastily wiping her eyes, laughed.

"What is the matter with me, Jef excitement. There! I'm all right ow," and she slid away from him. The old man seized her arm, and looked into her face intently.

"Doris!" he said, in a husky voice 'you-you are not unhappy?'

'Unhappy!" and she laughed again Why should I be unhappy? Perhaps cried because I'm too happy. Grief and joy are next of kin, you know. And aghtn't I to be filled with joy-I the oris Marlowe, who is to play Juliet

His hand dropped from her arm; but he was only half-satisfied.

"If I thought-" he muttered. e side; it attracts at- "Doris, you are all the world to ne

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but for you since"—he stopped ab-Day and night. early and late, I have worked to one end-to make you great and famous and happy. If I

He wiped the perspiration from his row, and looked at her almost wild-

"I know, I know. Dear, dear, old Jeffrey!" she murmured, soothing ous if you wish it. You shall see! said, nodding, and smiling hrough the tears that veiled her loveeyes. "Wait till to-morrow night. There! it is you who are excited now cannot act her," and she stooped and kissed his forehead and ran from the

left him, his hands working behind his back, his brows knotted into thick cords, his eyes fixed on the ground.

Doubt, almost remorse, were depicted on his countenance, with an intensity almost terrible. He sank into chair, and, covering his face with his hands, seemed lost in a dream. Presently the door opened, and Doris, like a vision of loveliness, stood in her white satin dress before him

She held the long train in one hand, and in the other a candle above her head, and stood with a grave smile upon her beautiful face, waiting. He looked up, then with a sudden cry,

"Lucy! Lucy! I did it for the best

"Jeffrey!" exclaimed Doris. "Jef frey!" and she hastened towards him in alarm; but the sound of her voice had recalled him to himself, and passing his hand across his forehead, he rose and looked at her.

"Yes, yes," he said, still in a half-Doris, you are very beautiful."

She coloured and shook her head. flatterer! But, Jeffrey, why did you over him, her brows drawn together

"Did I?" he replied, evasively. -must have been dreaming. There! is perfect. Perfect!" he repeated, emphatically, but looking at her face She did so. "Now, stand tion; "perfect! You look the part better-no! and to-morrow-" stopped and regarded her with 'Child, if you fail to-morrow you will kill me. Go now; go to bed and rest Go!" he repeated, still looking at her, but waving her away with his hand as if she recalled some memory too painful to be borne; and Doris, stooping and kissing him, went up to her own room again. There she stood before the glass and looked at herself with a scrutiny that she had never used

Jeffrey had called her beautiful! Was she really beautiful? Did others think her so-did he? She took up the handkerchief and looked at it dreamily; then, still in her Juliet dress, she rushed to her face, for she could almost fancy that even now she could feel the touch of his lips and the golden moustache upon the soft, pink

Rest! If to lie awake until the clock struck midnight, and then to fall asleep and dream that she was still bending over the handsome face, all voice mumuring "Will you forgive me?" was rest, then Doris was rest-

> CHAPTER IV. AT THE TOWERS

Cecil, Viscount Neville, rode off at a hard gallop at first, but presently he besides his tumble that afternoon to "shake the soul of him," as Tasso says. The blood was coursing through his veins at racing pace, and his new and strange emotion. It seemed

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realise that imagination had not been

He had seen beautiful women; in the language of his world he had had some half a dozen of them at least

her face as it had looked down upon

"I thought I was dead and that she never see her again! I must, I must! And I might have ridden over that shuddered. "I ought to have killed myself, clumsy, awkward idiot? But she forgave me, yes, she forgave me!" Why didn't I ask her her name? No. elt like that before-never! I fel actually afrain of her! I've half a angry, I wonder? I didn't thank her nough. Why, I behaved like a fool!

He started and loked at his watch. "Dinner-time," he murmured, "and in silver or stamps. No matter, I must go back. tween a sigh and a groan, he put the horse into a gallop and rode towards

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