THE DEAREST GIRL IN THE WORLD

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CHAPTER I.

Darkness was falling over the earth. The air was still coo! though spring flowers were peeping through the crevices, on mossy banks and in ferny hol-

The great towers of Castle Boyal cast and the heavy dark building made a greatesque silhouette against the horizon. A grand old home was Castle Roya! For years it had been the pride of all those silent sleepers that lay under the stone chancel of the parish church, and in the geat vaults of the Wedderburns. Their great wealth was now in posses-sion of one young man, Reginald Home. Lord Wedderburn, the only child of the deceased Lord Wedderburn and Ali-cia, the daughter of the Earl of Ely. The old Lord had for years slept in the Wedderburn vaults, and Lady Alicia and her son dwelt in the proud old home, surrounded by hosts of servants.

The spring evening was drawing to a close. An early dinner had been served for my Lady, since the young Lord had not yet returned from town. A bright fire gleamed on the hearth, and heavy silken curtains were drawn over the The apartment was one whose exceeding elegance would have delighted the most fastidious eye.

Luxurious silken lounges were here and there, and over the heavy Persian carpet were spread fur robes that were as costly as leautiful. On a small table urned dimly a fairy lamp, shedsole occupant was Alicia, Lady Wedder

her face -a face that with its years had grown cold proud and was vet beautiful. Her hair was slightly gray; but the face was one of those that absence of care had left unlined Her form was still rounded and heautiful, but the pose of the head was the characteristic that plainly betokened her great pride. Lady Wedderburn arose from her silken couch and impatiently rang for lights. silken

Tell Marston to ask Lord Wedderburn to come to me immediately on his return," she said to the servant, and despite the anger or impatience written on her face when she uttered the name of Lord Wedderburn, there was a soft intonation of the voice that bespoke the great love of this grand wo-man for her son. To her he was a god to be worshipned. Each year, as he grew to manhood, had augmented her fear that she might lose some of her great influence over him.

Lady Wadderburn threw herself in an an easy chair beside a table on which lay an open letter, which she once more

"The Weston Homes are still here. They certainly are the most vulgar people that it has ever been my ill-fortune to meet. How Westen Home could have allied himself to that coarse wobeyond me, and those daughters! When I mention the som I am filled with unutterable shame, for few have the audacity to speak his name. lam told that Reginald led an exceedingly gay life last season, being seen constantly in the company of that obectionable person, his cousin, and his collowers. I was told vesterday that Reginald had certainly great talent, that he could lead two lives so directly op-posite to each other: one night he is lionized at Lady Elsmere's; the next with Weston Home in company the gavest of the gav. In this with the gayest of the gay. In this double life he has been leading he is in great danger. One may do this successfully for a time: but the time most surely will come when the heavy weight settle down to respectability, as that would probably be the very calamity most feared by those Weston Homes. It would deprive them of unbounded wealth in expectation, and I am sure they stand in great need of it, despite their loud vulgarity and show."

Lady Wedderburn's face was as white as her robe, and angry fear was plain ly written on every feature. Litle, idle gossipy stories had frequently reached her ears, but were soon dispelled by one glance at her son's handsome face. He her son, and was beyond reproach; her pride. The letter before her, writher aunt, the Counters of March-Great have facts confronted her. Regi. | the late Lord Wedderburn Lord Wedderburn, who now in his hald. Lord Wedgerburn, who now it instructions the least thirtieth year, had not shown the least ted to live there tree of charge during medination for the society of young all those years, none could tell. It had ladies, notwithstanding the fact that long since been given up as one of Lady Alicia had been aimost constantly surface used given up as one of surface deep given up a pass to the Wester Hemes, and my over the matter. As the late lord's Lady Alicia would then have to repair wishes that Dame Synter should deave Lady Alicia would the have been such small edds and ends of we country place of her own having scarce is he could manage, and be paid. enough means to surround herself with sum therefor. The Castle housekeeper plenty, much less with luxury. To give had aiways kept the dame's deft fingers much less with luxury. To give up Castle Royal! The very thought of well it made her sick. To have the Weston very omes parading over the marble halls. Inding gawking in their vulgarity at the fine old portraits, not knowing a Van Dyck from a Reynolds or a Lely! was almost beyond human endurance not say to a many of thirty "you must thirty had received thirty years of training in family pride and strength of will, besides his great natural inherit-

rounded herself with hosts of the fairest | the color of her eyes. Her harr fell in girls, and through all intriguing he came | the color of her eyes. Her harr fell in as shower of tangled masses down her out uninterested.

It was simply unbearable. She would

a few turns around the room, and as wings occurward—with as the very there sie heard her son's footsteps, seated hereoff in an uncertain light to hide her that grew on the cliffs. But Dorothereoff in an uncertain light to hide her the grew of her, own. Despite He entered lie form as as always did,

Sterrerring progression and the sterrer sterre his face beaming with devotion to his mother. She was his all.

His great love for her precluded all love for another. His thirty years left no traces on him. His was yet the boyish, handsome face of her lover-hus-band. There was the same dark hair, and great soulful honest eves

All her anger melted away instantly; but the great fear still lingered.

"How cozy!" he exclaimed, as he en-tered and clasped her in his strong arms.
"It is a downright pleasure to get home after heing in town a few hours. You are different from any other woman, mother, you carry your radiance with you wherever you are." He lounged before the warm fire, but

o answer came to his greating.

He glanced at the face beside him and saw there traces of tears, but a great love shone in her eyes. He arose at once and went to her.
"Tell me, what has arisen to distress

"Tell me, what maked.
Lady Wedderburn could never tell
how she had the courage to ceast his
soft, pleading tones and to act as she
did; but without a reply she handed him
the letter that lay beside her. He seed it through carefully. He seemed to realize, in a moment, all the pain his mother had experienced—her wounded

"I am somewhat surprised that Aunt Emily should have taken so much pains to write thus," he stammered.
"Your Aunt Emily realizes my great

pride and the color mounted to his

danger, she said. Then, as if eager to hear a denial, she added: Then there is no truth in it?"

For a moment Lord Reginald seemed confused. He had never deceived her in his life, and the hesitation was the only answer necessary. The eagerness all fled from the face of Lady Wedderburn. In its stead came the cold, haughty manner she had assumed. "You do not know what I suffer.

Those vulgar peoble are mearly at their wits' end for money, and they would sacrifice you to their own ends. The very idea of those people scheming to usurp my son is atterly loathsome to me. You have no idea how I live with this great danger hanging over my head. This sword, that may fall at any moment; and the result would be a thou sand times worse than death to me. It any accident happened you I must give up Castle Royal, our beautiful home and go out like a discharged servant." Lady Wedderburn here burst into tears Lord Reginald felt that every word was true, and the force of the

words fell upon him as it had never done before. He took her in his strong arms "There is time enough, mother let me have you as my idol a while longer, then I may follow your advice. Am I not young enough yet? Am I not strong

and healthy as a young birch tree?"

These words had the desired effect.

Lady Wedderburn dried her tears, but the words "there is, time enough brought so, little comfort she had heard them so often, and they did not lessen her danger one whit, still he had taken her words to heart she was quite sure of this, from his face, as he left

Lady Wedderburn arose and dres

erself up proudly once more.
"How could I have ever said all that to him, I wonder—she thought, "and he so noble and true. I must know him that I am not angry with him, by being doubly tender towards him, poor, wound

Lord Reginald stepped through ar open window, and lighted his eigar. There before him lay a sea of fair land great old trees that had weathered of evil companionship will drag him the storms of centuries—each one seem down to their level. If I were in your ed an old friend. Rich fields and feetile but he could plainly see the inside of the place. Alicia, I would use every in meadows, and on the north the sea fluence to get Reginald to marry and whence came the cool evening breeze. whence came the cool evening breeze.

The moonlight fell softly over Line The great towers cast deep castle.

shadows on the sward below "A fair inheritance." he marmurel "and mother is right. It would hill ner

to give it up.

Just then a gleam of light stole ton idly through the trees. It came from old Lenthill, a part of Lord Reginald's estate. The house was of stone, but was now almost in runs. An uncanny place it looked, and every place it seemed desolate enough. There were only a few scree that were let with the old house, and these were barren and almost useless to its present occupant.

The house had been occupied by an aged

woman, who had been a pensioner Why Dame Wynter had been permit such small edds and enus of work inal aiways kept the dame's deft fingers will enpoised, but now she was growing very mirrin, and there were two to be kept, some Lince was Dorothy, her grandenild. A wild weed truly was Dorothy, with her strange, nymphilike lace, great, bund, brown eyes, and a mass of familied, sunny harr. Exerything about Dorothy seemed to be at war amorane themselves. She looked like a mass ong themselver. She looked fike a mass of odds and ends—of humanity hitched together, regardless or coloring, and the will, besides his great natural inherit ance of it.

Besides, Lady Wedderburn had surrounded herself with hosts of the fairest girls, and through all intriguing his

shot lders and looked innocent of e.c. nerve herself to a grand effort, and do former thing she had seldom done, speak plainly to her son, and tell him her straightening them out as best she could, straightening them out as best she could, For lifteen years she had grown wild as Lady Wedderburn dried her eyes, took | the gulls that flew with great, white the rags that fell from her shoulders, her

Reme were least folly rounded. Her-

of Buticura Soan tto Skin Sufferers

If you, er someone dear to you, are suffering the itching, burning, sleep destroying torments of eczema or other cruel skin eruption, with its embarrassing, unsightly disfigurement; if you have tried all manner of treatment, no matter how harsh, to no avail, and have all but given up hope of cure, write to day for a liberal sample of Cuticura Scap and Ointment. Thousands of skin-tertured sufferers, from infancy to age, have found that the first warm bath with Cuticura Soap and gentle application of Cuticura Ointment bring instant relief, permit rest and sleep, and prove the first steps in a speedy and successful treatment. Address "Cuticura," Dept. zoM, Boston, U.S.A.

fully arched as those of a ducin

No one knew anything about Dorothy fifteen years ago by Dame Wynter, and the neighbors sourmised she was the grandchild of Dame Wynter; but that ame carried herself at such a distance no one dared question but when the to her angrily and shortly after Dorothy came out with tear stained eyes and ruises on her fair skin, it was half guessed that Dorothy was an unwilling seminder of something decidedly uspicaant to the dame.

Hence Dorothy, with her strangely eautiful dace and her high-heed hair, as a conundrum to all who saw her.

The clock in the great tower struck ten and aroused Lord Webberburn from his thoughts. A light from the old-mined house stole faintly through the tree Lord Wedderburn arose and threw

away his eigar. It was as vet early and, not being sleepy he walked down the pathway that led to Lenthill. The graveled walks were well kept, and the lawn was like velvet. The great trees ame pool and invigorating from the sea

"What if anything should happen me" he thought: "it would kill poor mother. I must arrange matiers as sh I owe her that much; still 1 will not be burried. This was the asual ending of his

The light came through the tree

faintly and bickering and ere he was aware he stood near the ruined house. He stood in the shadow of an old dower. He had not intended coming but his thoughts led him thither. He heard a coice calling louder and louder Derothy! Dorothy!

There was no answer save the winsper ing of the leaves and the heating of his

The call came more and more angri'y room through the curtamiess windows The door opened, and Dame Wynter the room, the clack came into walking stick resounding on the atone "You miserable hearn" she excisim

ed. "new dare you burn the wood such a might as this."" Lord Wedderburn could not see Doro-

thy, but he knew from the dame's tones she must be there. He took a few steps nearer the window, and there his ever liew cold there stone looked against the enowy white arms that were half covered by the rags see wore. Lord Wedderburn was riveled to that you will find Miss Staumton an ex-eminante the spot. In all his life he could never enedingly lively young person. sugget the scene where Porothy iny asteep as sweetly as though in a downy bled, her fair hair streaming over her black a veil of gold and her lace sesting on an arm outstretched on the cold what's the cause if it, anyway." the scene where Dorothy on an stm outstretched on the cold what's the cause it it anyway? to stone floor. Dame Wanter struck her Lord Reginald smiled grinly to himseveral times with her cane to arouse seef while he spondered over it awhile, her tisen went to the fire and placed the liaif-burned faguse on one side of the life spened another letter, which send hearth, that she might prevent their thus;

ning, th

he turnd to go.
"Don't you dare to burn the wood o meh amight, you beggar! Mon't you now that the lord will not det you burn no for cent next and much good it will do them to come." The dame laughed shrilly, then shook her cane again at the

"Liare them to some. I dare them to ask me for money. Lask them why old Sir Robert let me live here all these years without pay? Let them answer

Dorothy ant there rubbing her eves,

half esleep still. You are not to burn another lagot of tone floor was so cold granny,

she said, suitly.
"Cold, is it? Then set un freeze, Neu mouth to feed. Ho you know if there is one mason why I should be burdened with you," she screamed. "I don't know, Granny," sepled Dor-

You are nothing to me, you beggar lo you know that

"You are all I have, Granny," she re-The dame, finding no excuse for

longer stay, hobbled out, the clacks of her cane counding as it struck the hard For a moment Dorothy seemed dazed

then went tears rolled down ther cheeks, and she caught a few rags that dell from her arms and wiped them away. She my down again, and ever and anon a sob escaped her until she

fell saleep.

Lord Wedderburn stood as if trans ined. He was brought face to face with a state of allers that stageared him. He had sever dreamed that such miserable poverty as he had just seen was so meanly within sound of his bounders

Instead of the rugged child he had mown, there was the quaintly, beautiful The words of the dame came slowly to

Let them dare ask for cents from ne." Who was Dame Wynter that sh should talk thus? Instead of the moth-erly old dame he had thought her; there was this wruch wingo. The dame then had led dual lines. One was that of the good motherly woman that, despite her harsh voice and cruei eyes, had said pies ant things to him and had pretended to like him since his earliest boyhood. This then was the true Dame Wenter.

What was the date anime water.
What was the mystery about this girl
borothy? If she was not dame Wynter's grandchild, as report said, then who
was Borothy Wyner?
Lord Wedderlarn gazed once more into the room and on the sleeping occu

pant; then he stepped from the shadow of the tower and took the path toward

nald Home to take than walk he conf

never think That might he fell asieep dreaming over the whole scene; but in the dream a fairy ralace and Durothy was a queen, was a lover, but to all his en sun had fairly gilded the tops of the castern hills, his valet mas astonished to find him up enjoying the early morning that there was a worn hook disease and makin to do may own on his face for the swas worked from work. The clouder said inworld there

that something be done for Dorothy something to make life more hearable to prove by inquiring among my neighbors."

her: but women folks were better in that kind of business, and had had had better the kidneys strain all the poisons and Home-leen up-so-early line would have the gaines of discusse out of the lined. Add her thut my lady siept hat there Thus bladd's Kalney Tills are a matural wait awhile until his return cure poor Dorothy

CHAPTER II.

Immediately on his arrival in London

Immediately on his arrival in London, Lord Wedderburn repaired to his club. There he found letters awaiting him, and among them was one from his aunt. Lady Emity Marchmont, that concluded with the following request:

"If you arrive in town on Thursday come to the Harcourts' hall. I have Lady Lette with me new, accompanied by her nece, a Miss Stanton, an American, but a lovely girl. Lewould take it as a favor if you would pay them some attention. You need not leave at once the waits once a five and the windows were failusiness. The sale late waits enter the sale favor if you would pay them some attention. You need not leave at once the waits once paintings of the waits once and waits of the waits on the waits of feel on the subject of the daine's wrath, by her mere, a. Miss Stanton, an American for there, lying askeep, on the bare floor. as a favor if you would pay them some attention. You need not leave at once for tastle Royal, as I can assure you

ceedingly lovely young person."
"Gad! Lady Marchinent is growing



(Mr. Bryan will not be much of a factor in the coming campaign. Politi-

"Old Dector Bryan is totally dead The sod and the daisies are over his head His power is gone and he's out of the game But old Doctor Bryan's alive just the same. In spite of the people who say he is dyin Old Colonel Bryan.

It's said that "they cannot come back, but they do And old Doctor Bryan is proving it true For just when physicians pronounce him the worse He cleans out the doctors, dismisses the nurse. And sends all the frog-throated prophets a fixin Old Columel Bryan

Old Doctor Bryan has comething to sa When they are planning to plant him away. Each little boomiet that nourishes hope Finds it must go to the Doc for the dope He's no dead dog, but a mighty live Lion Old Doctor Brant



REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR. HOW MONGOOSE KILLS CORRA

What strange fate that led Lord Regi Because Mrs. Goodine Used Dodd's hidney Pills

> Dopter Said She Would Have Modergo Operation, but Dodd's

Gentral Lingschent, bark Co., N. B., hopeless lave for her and proud, and his May 27. (Special.) The doctors and I stoppaticularly and carefully applied that he awake and tossed about would have to undergo applied that he awake and tossed about would have to undergo applied. So his bed-exceedingly happy when the clock in the tower told him but askes miled as sie made the senark, sinting strike of his deadly memory the that it was nearly sunrise, and almost | for all need of the dreamed operation and cooks di supella. Times of Cerlon time to be up and seady to take the annished. Mrs. Lisonine are I dodge early train for London. Even when the Kidney Pilis and is a well-woman. Cosen in darief and in der own words. Mrs Capaline's experience in as loison-

work. The sienter and I would shave loss of sleep and he was restless and to undergo an operation. After using three bases of Dodd's Kinney falls Lauss all bester and able to do my work. This statement is true as you can early

for all kidney diseases and all cataored to almenteed histories t

MATURAL CURIOSITY. 48t. Paul Dispatch.)

That St. Laure with yourse Ministrate State Sala De Service State St. Mark Just day but here. "And still futber awag St. T. norby:

"Young me", occupated for its simulation which do let be to be be been said the Professions."

MOTHERS

Ann & Misueer. In Lapponeut's Maga-Look, mother-sheep in the pastire. Look, mother-wind on your hars! Rose-mother, with your losse. See line child that is on my breast! O. mother-eart's, with Neutralines ca-Cartie and cools and vince. It is were you in Neutralines. And mangit was there ever on mane. I envied you, bird your meethings; of corn-field in the valles I envied you. Does, Your meanes I was use for you, gooden Signates But new I may walk among vo A motivet along with the less Be gind with me, my heighbors For the child last is on it out

HATS FOR GHINA. (CHURK! TIN The Chemial Review, a Japanese per-

raises, published in the control of all satisfacts to the fact limit to climate seventher is pulying another and the findos of the matters. As the appunity may be seen for the white last, Witness queen the Charleste with the interest queen deri. The first sequent from Komersan's and the Krisery of November 28. was of little has a fer a was of like to be raised Sch main the second of the second

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Emally be ate three or four inches of enting the forms and posson glands, which I picked up by a stack and found them broken, but with the wes

Contrary to popular belief. Lam of dram sunke pason, she why should be



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BRIDGE MAXIMS

PERSONALBBUYING

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