

"There is a quaint old tradition," said Father Gregory, "which relates that when King Jesus ascended into heaven, he was met at the drawbridge by the archangel Gabriel, who politely questioned him as to whether he had accomplished the purpose of his ministry on earth, and had made suitable arrangements for the carrying on of his work. 'Well,' said King Jesus, 'I've given my message to a girl or two, and a few fishermen . . . ' Gabriel raised his eyebrows and whistled. 'Is that all your Majesty has done?' he asked, in surprise. 'Surely there is some other plan that you've made in case this one fails.' But King Jesus replied: 'No, there is no other plan.'"

Robin made no comment, and for some moments they sat in silence, while the sun, now risen above the eastern horizon, cast its fiery rays upon the cliffs behind them, turning them to blazing gold. At length he stood up and stretched himself, running his sunburnt hands through his fair hair.

"Well, I shall go and have my bath," he said. "Let's have breakfast early: I feel jolly hungry."

He entered the bedroom where Madeline was still asleep, and with his kisses he awakened her. She stretched out her arms luxuriously and folded them about his neck, drawing his head down to her breast.

"Oh, Robin," she laughed, "isn't it glorious to be alive? . . ."

THE END