YOLANDE. By WILLIAM BLACK. DARE," "WHITE WINGS," "SURRISE," ETC.

(Continued.) CHAPTER XXX. "DARE ALL."

uld not rest, som went into the laboratory and looked vacantly around; the objects there seemed to have no interest for him. Then he went back to the house—into the room where he had found her standing; and that had more of a charm for him: the atmosphere still seemed to bear the perfume of her presence, The music of her voice still seemed to hang in the air. She had left on the table—she had forgotten, indeed—a couple of boards inclosing two specimens of the Alchemilla. These he turned over, regarding with some attention the pretty quaint. went into the laboratory and looked va-cantly around; the objects there seem-ed to have no interest for him. Then he went back to the house—into the

portions of the prosency. The mass of the process o

there was a pathetic cry in this man's torice). "And I have thought of it sufficiently, I hope. I would not have come birch bushes on the hill-side beyond the glen. Presently he made out what it was—a pony grazing, and gradually coming more and more into view. Then he reflected that the pony could only be there for one purpose; that probably the attendant gillie and the panniers were hidden from sight behind those birches; and that, if it were so, the shooting party had not returned, and were bound to come back that way. A very few minutes of further waiting proved his conjectures to be right, a scattered group of people, with dogs into heel, appearing on the crest of the hill oppeasite. Then he had no further waiting properate. Then he had no further with the most anxious consideration."

"No." said the other, "I would not have to anything; I would not subject the to anything; I would not subject her to anything; I would not subject her to anything; I would not subject the to anything; I would not subject the panniers were hidden from sight behind those birches; and that, if it were so, the shooting party had not returned, and were bound to come back that way.

A very few minutes of further waiting proved his conjectures to be right, a scattered group of people, with dogs into heel, appearing on the crest of the hill oppeasite. Then he had no further with the case before her, and I will stake my head I can tell what her answer will be—what her answer will be—what her answer will be—what her answer will be—what her decision will be—yes, and before you have finished your story!"

"She will not be a fraid."

"He seemed to have a very profound the would not sufficiently, I have thought on the most anxious consideration."

"Oh," said the suffice to would not suffice. I would not the most anxious consideration."

"No." said the other, "I would not. I know it will not be adreaded to have one heat the common trouble would be slight. Be-sides, I have not many friends; and when one has the chance of lending of gratifica hill opposite. Then he had not not at doubt. Down this slope he went at

a wing-bridge across the burn. When they had got to the bridge, Melville stopped him.

"I am not going on with you to the lodge," and the me add the "Mr. Winterbourne and I thought I'd come along and have a word with you. I bego you will form the winder but the bound with this poor woman—only her. Well, and with this poor woman—only her. Well, and with this poor woman—only her words and I thought I'd come along and have a word with you. I bego you will forgive me for thrusting myself in where I may not be wanted; but—but it is not always the right thing to 'pass by on the other said.' I couldn't in this case."

"I am sure we are most thankful toy you for what you have done already," Yolande's father said, promptly; and then he added, with a weary look in his face, "and what is to be done now I don't know. I can not bring myself to this that Leslie demands. It is too terrible. I look at the girl—well, it does not bear speaking of.

"Look here, Winterbourne." John Shortlands said, "I am going to leave you two together. I will wait for you on the other saide. But I would advise you to listen well to anything that Mr. Melville has to say; I have my own guess."

With that he master will missit why should Yolande know? The more make his way across the narrow and swaring bridge, leaving these two alone.

"What I want to know, first of all," Mr. Winterbourne said, with a kind of despair in his voice, "is whether you are certain that the Master will insist! Why-should Yolande know? Why make her miserable to no end? Look what has been done to keep this knowledge from her all through these years; and you are see the result in the gayety of her heart. Would she have been like that if she had known—if she had always

"Mr. Winterbourne said, with a kind of despair in his vice," is whether you are certain that the Master will missit who here all through these years; and you are seen that the interplace and get rough the proposing she were to get her mother along the proposing she were to get her mother along the proposing she

doubt. Down this slope he went at headlong speed, crossing the rushing burn by springing from bowlder to bowlder, scrambled up through the bowlder, scrambled up through the girl's nature; and there was a kind of thick brush-wood and heather of the op-

wish those people to imagine that he had come on any important ergand. And so the conversation, as the pony was being loaded was all about the day's sport. They had done very well, it appears the sport of the spor

And so the conversation, as the pony was being loaded was all about the day's sport. They had done very well, it appeared; the birds had not yet got wild, and there was no sign of packing; they had got a couple of teal and a golden plover, which was something of a variety; also they had had the satisfaction of seeing a large eagle—at unusually close quarters.

Then they set out for home; Duncan and the gillies making away for a sort of ford by which they could get the pony across the Dun Water, while the three others took a nearer way to the lodge by getting down through a gully to the Corrie-an-eich, where there was a swing-bridge across the burn. When they had got to the bridge, Melville stopped him.

Why, even to go to London by herself—when the sa nothing to do with it. That is not what I mean at all. As for that, her maid would go with her as a matter of course; and Mr. Shortlands might see her as far as London if he is going south shortly, as I hear. She could put up at one or other of ford by which they could get the dwith you. Then you would give her three others took a nearer way to the lodge by getting down through a gully to the Corrie-an-eich, where there was a swing-bridge across the burn. When they had got to the bridge, Melville stopped him.

"I am not going on with you to the stopped him.

"I fe you wish. But first let me extended alone.

"I fe you wish. But first let me extended alone.

"I have not going on with you to the specification to find a better time than next Tuesday, if that will be convenient for you, for we shall be all away at the far tops that day, and, I dare say, it will take you some time to break the news I gently."

"I am quite at your service, either on Tues lay or any other day, whenever you let me know what you have decided."

"He would not go on to the house with her as far as London him to you some time to break the news I was all. As for that, her maid would go with her as a matter of course; and Mr. Winterbourne the far tops that day, and, I dare say, it will take you

been thinking of one who ought to be near her, and perhaps blaming herself for holding aloof from her? She would have been quite different; she would have been old in sadness by this time; whereas she has never known what a care was. Mr. Melville, you are his friend; you know him better than any of us. Don't you think there is some chance of reasoning with him, and inducing him to forego-this demand? It seems so hard."

by ou have thought of everything," the father murmured. "Well, let us see what Shortlands says. It is a terrible risk. I am not hopeful myself. The thing is, is it fair to bring all this distress and suffering on the girl on such a remote chance?"

"You must judge of that," said Melville. "You asked me what I would do. I have told you."

Mr. Winterbourne was about to step on to the bridge, across which only one

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bowlder, scrambled up through the thick brush-wood and heather of the opposite banks, and very soon encountered the returning party. Who were now watching the panniers being put on the pony's back.

Now that he had intercepted Mr. Winterbourne, there was no need for hurry. He could take time to recover his breath, and also to bethink hinself as how he should approach this difficult matter; and then again, he did not wish those people to imagine that he had come on any important ergand.

"But why alone?" pleaded the father—he seemed to be imagining all kinds of things with those haggard eyes.

"I would not have the mental shock lessened by the presence of any one. I would have no possible suspicion of a trap, a bait, a temptation. I would have no possible suspicion of a trap, a hait, a temptation. I would have it between these two the daughtout the cause of her having to be told, and that would only make missible first appeal to her mother. I am not afraid of the result."

Sene will be a woman."

"At all events, Winterbourne, "John Shortlands broke in, "what I said before I say now—you are the last man to undertake such a job. You'd frighten the girl out of her senses. It's bad enough as it is, and it'll have to be told her by degrees. I would have a try myself, but I might say something about the cause of her having to be told, and that would only make missible the father—he seemed to be imagining all kinds of things with those haggard eyes.

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