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**At the Mouth of the Treacherous Pit**  
STORY OF LOVE, INTRIGUE AND REVENGE

CHAPTER XVI.

“Say no more, mamma!” she cried, her indomitable pride and spirit coming to the rescue. “It is all a mistake. I—I do not care. Let Sir Karl marry whom he will; it is nothing to me.”

Her voice had in it such a ring of pain, that tears came into her mother's eyes.

“Did I say that I loved him, mamma?” It was perfect nonsense, quite untrue. The white rose, you know—always the white rose!”

Madame thought that she was wandering in her mind; she could not see what a white rose had to do with her disappointment. Lolo's dark eyes flashed as she went on.

“Never remind me of my folly, mamma; forget all about it, as I shall. Who would have thought Dolores would have two husbands, while I have not had one? It is most amusing. Have I frightened you?”

She said, looking toward her mother, who sat with a terrified face. “It was the closeness of the room which made me faint, not what you told me about Sir Karl.”

She laughed, with a laugh that made Madame's blood run cold—a horrible laugh; then she stopped suddenly, kissed her mother's face and said—

“Poor mamma! I am sorry I have frightened you. Let me get you some wine. You must have something, you look quite white.”

“I want nothing, Lola. Tell me one thing. You have neither father nor brother—only me to befriend you, but I, though a weak woman, I can be like a lioness when my child is touched. Tell me, has that man deceived you? Has he made love to you as a mere sport and pastime? If so the law shall punish him!”

Lola laughed again, this time with flushed face and glowing eyes.

“No, mamma, he has never made love to me. Say no more about him. What lies between him and myself I will repay. Never mention the subject again.”

When the clock struck seven, the girl stood up, and then a worn look dimmed the brilliancy of her face.

“Mamma, I am very tired,” she said. “I am going to my room. Do not let any one disturb me on any account. I shall be quite well tomorrow.”

Madame kissed her, and when her laughter had left the room, she closed the door.



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with a startled glance as Lola entered, and uttered a little cry as she saw the full expression of the beautiful face.

“Lola!” she said, frightened more than she would have cared to own.

No answer came from the French girl, who walked up to her with a haughty air. She let her dark traveling cloak fall from her shoulders, removed her hat from her head, and there, standing erect before Dolores, she said—

“Let me speak. I have come to ask you a question. Is it true what I hear? It is true that you have stolen my lover from me?”

“I have stolen no one's lover,” answered Dolores.

She had grown very pale; she was really afraid of the girl who stood before her with such glittering eyes.

“You have stolen mine, Sir Karl was mine. You are a false friend and a false woman! You have stolen him, knowing that he was mine!”

“He was never yours, Lola. When you say that, you speak falsely. He was kind to you; he has been, I know, a true and staunch friend to you; but he was never your lover—and you know it!”

“I repeat that he was mine, and mine only, but that you have come between us—you, with your pale, sickly face and yellow hair, thinking yourself no doubt, irresistible; you, I say, have come between us.”

“I have not,” replied Dolores. “Sir Karl has never been your lover and never will be.”

“He was learning to love me,” continued Lola. “I loved him with my whole heart, and my love had touched him. He was beginning to care for me when you came between us and stole him from me. It was rank treachery. Can you deny that you knew I loved him? I had opened my heart to you, I had told you that he was mine!”

“He was not yours. The fact of your calling a man yours does not make him so. The fact even that you love a man does not compel him to love you. Sir Karl had the right to love whom he pleased.”

“He would have loved me,” retorted Lola sullenly. “If you had not come between us.”

“My dear Lola, you are quite wrong. Now be reasonable; do not stand and look at me as though I were your greatest enemy. If there had been any engagement, any acknowledgement of love between Sir Karl and yourself, I would rather have died than have promised to marry him!”

“I repeat that he was mine, and that you have stolen him.”


“He was never yours,” said Lady Rhyworth—I have his own word for it.”

Lola's face flushed with rage.

“So you have talked to him about me!” she cried.

(To be continued.)

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WILKINSON'S LINIMENT FOR RHEUMATISM.

**Improve Your Tennis Service**

By F. G. LOWE, the International player.

A moment's thought will show what an important part service plays in tennis. It should be the dominating stroke in the game. A good service will almost carry you through a match, whereas a weak one will invariably let you down. The former should be the means of opening out your whole game; the latter will put you on the defensive at once.

It was obvious to those who saw Patterson serve his way through the Wimbledon Tournament of 1922 what a powerful weapon of attack a service could become. The French trio, Cochet, Borotra, and Lacoste, good as they are, cannot quite hold the best Americans; it is only in service that they are weaker. The odds are strongly in favour of the server, for while the service is being won the match can never be lost!

**Conserve Your Energy.**

The service is the one stroke at lawn tennis which cannot be influenced by your opponent. Plenty of time can be taken and the ball thrown up as you wish for hitting. This being the case, it should be possible to cultivate a good action, which should become almost mechanical. The service can be practised alone both on and off a court until perfection is nearly reached. Cultivate an action which produces the maximum of effect with the minimum of effort.

The server should stand sideways to the net with a wide stance, adopting much the same attitude as that used for throwing. From this position the weight of the body can be used in making the stroke, and should be swung from the right to the left foot as the ball is being hit.

The keynote of a successful service is in throwing the ball up to the correct position, which is in line with the left shoulder and a little in front of the body.

**Watch the Ball.**

It should travel at least two feet higher than the server's actual hitting plane. The ball should be hit at the highest possible point, with arms and racket fully extended in order to clear the net with the least amount of risk. The server should almost fall on to the ball. He will thus be carried forward in his run to the net.

If the ball is thrown up carelessly the server must lose his balance in attempting to hit it. Therefore, before anything else is attempted, make certain by continuous practice of throwing the ball up in the correct line.

Grip your handle at the end in order to attain the maximum reach, and adopt an action similar to an Indian club swing. Keep your eye on the ball all through the stroke.

**The Unguarded Court.**

Your racket should swing through after impact with the ball and finish to the left side of the left knee. By this means a hard, well-placed delivery should result. It is not a bad tip to follow through to the right side for your second service. Your placing will not be as accurate but the ball will be kept in court owing to the top spin imparted. Endeavour to cultivate a second service of nearly the same pace as your first.

Always try to keep your opponent guessing, and vary your pace and placing. The centre line, where the net is lowest, will be found the best spot at which to aim, as it reduces to a minimum the possible replies of your opponent. Your stance should be as near to the centre of the court and the baseline as possible. It never pays to serve from a corner, as too much of your court will be left unguarded.

I am strongly in favour of women, as well as men, using the overhead service; an all-round game will seldom be developed otherwise.

**Forest Fires**

Forest fires annually destroy in the United States about seven million acres of timber land. Three-fourths of the forestry problem in this country is declared to be protection against fire. A great majority of these are started by careless individuals. They belong to that class of persons who every year contribute to a fire loss of property, aside from timber, that amounts to more than 400 million dollars. Until recently enacted Forestry Bill protection of forests was greatly extended. But no system of protection, which reasonable funds will make possible, can

**Codfish fresh from the ocean's depths. Fried in Crisco. Delicious.**

**Red, White, and Blue Mourning!**

Black always spells mourning to us, but in other lands every conceivable colour is utilized. Black signifies loss of light and joy, and resultant grief, but white, suggesting hope, is favoured in China.

In the South Sea Islanders combine the two and mourn in Black and white stripes. Sky-blue holds its own in Boko bars, and pale browns, to represent withered leaves, is worn by the Persian.

In Ethiopia and Abyssinia relatives think of the earth to which their dead friends return, and accordingly adopt grey-brown for their mourning. Purple and violet are the colours used to mourn cardinals in France. French kings, however, have been known to wear scarlet.

Yellow should stand for unfaithfulness and jealousy, yet the country classes in Britain always use it for mourning. Traitors' cells were once painted yellow in France, and the Spanish executioner's robes used to be yellow and red.

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Men's Dark Brown Boots, blucher style, solid leather soles and heels; sizes 6 to 10; a real "Bargain" at  
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June 27, 1924.

**Forest Fires**

Forest fires annually destroy in the United States about seven million acres of timber land. Three-fourths of the forestry problem in this country is declared to be protection against fire. A great majority of these are started by careless individuals. They belong to that class of persons who every year contribute to a fire loss of property, aside from timber, that amounts to more than 400 million dollars. Until recently enacted Forestry Bill protection of forests was greatly extended. But no system of protection, which reasonable funds will make possible, can

**Predicting the Tides**

An authority on British tidal work writes, regarding the article, "Predicting tides by machinery," in our issue dated May 24th, that 30 per cent. of all tidal investigations has been carried out in this country. The method of prediction in which the machine is used was suggested by Lord Kelvin, and depends in practice on a British Association Committee, the chairman of which was the late Sir George Darwin.

The predicting machine was also suggested by Lord Kelvin, and the first machine, constructed about 1868, is now in the South Kensington Museum. Since that date the total number of machines constructed, or under construction, in all countries, is eleven—one each in Germany and the United States (referred to in our article) and nine in this country.

Of the nine British machines, one is in use for predicting tides in this country, and one each has been supplied to India, France, Brazil, the Argentine Republic, and Japan; three are under construction, one for use in this country, one for Japan (to replace the previous machine destroyed in the earthquake), and one for Portugal.

Tidal predictions of an approximate nature have been locally published

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