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Says Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Made Her Well and Strong

Glens Falls, N. Y.—"For over two months I was so sick I was not able to stand on my feet, and my husband did my housework. The doctor said an operation might be necessary. I read testimonials about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and began to take it. Before I had finished taking the first bottle I saw what good it was doing me. I am now well and strong, doing all my work for a family of four, all my washing and my sewing, which I think is remarkable, as I had not dared to run my sewing machine, but had done all my sewing by hand. I truly feel that were it not for your medicine I would not be here today as my case seemed very serious."—Mrs. GEORGE W. BRONSON, Glens Falls, N. Y.

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LADY LAURAS' RELEASE

THE STORY OF A SPOILED BEAUTY.

CHAPTER XL
But the danger of her position frightened her. She could hardly realize the fact that one person should seek to compass the death of another; yet it was most undeniably true. She had felt certain that the captain had told her, on that winter day when she was so nearly drowned, to go to the bend of the pool; she had been quite confident about it. It was true that at the time she believed there had been a mistake; but that belief had lasted long. Now she saw what his motive was. But for the brave and courageous young squire she would have been in her grave, and possibly her mother, too, by this time. Again she felt sure now that he had tampered with the boat, and had ridden away, leaving her to her fate. She was more than confirmed in her suspicion when she remembered how averse he had been to have the boat recovered from the lake, for he knew that the marks of his treachery were

there and would be discovered. It all seemed to her so plain that she wondered she had not found it out before; but then she remembered that she did not at that time know anything of her mother's will.

The old nurse was waiting for her that evening when she reached her room; and one look at the girl's young face told the faithful servant that she had not been mistaken in her suspicion.

"You need have no fear, a good whip like you," he assured her. "I have no fear, Captain," she replied; "but I do not feel inclined either to ride or to drive this morning. I shall walk with mamma."

Captain Wynyard went away, but not before Angela had noticed the expression of baffled rage that swept over his countenance. She knew just as though she had been told that he had planned something to injure her, and she shuddered as she thought of it. If she had known that on this same morning he had received a note from Gladys Rane telling him how dreary and monotonous life was without him, and asking him to say when he thought it probable that they might meet, she would perhaps have been able to trace some connection between it and his renewed interest in her health.

She could no longer take refuge from her harassing thoughts in the hope that she was mistaken, and, even had she had any doubt, a discovery made later on would have finally convinced her. Yet, with the ample proof that she had, she felt sure that, were she to seek advice or help, she would be laughed at; the whole story seemed even to herself so incredible and horrible.

Angela was passing the library windows, which looked on to the terrace, at an hour when she was generally with her mother. On reaching the middle window, she halted, and out of mere curiosity looked in. She saw the captain standing inside, with his back to the windows and his face to the great mirror over the low mantle-piece; and, as the mirror was exactly opposite to the window, she could see the reflection plainly. He held two small bottles in his hands, and was dropping some perfectly colorless fluid one into the other, evidently counting the drops as they fell. He was so engrossed in his task that he did not hear the approach of the watcher, nor did he raise his eyes to the mirror. Had he done so, he must have seen the reflection of the colorless face so intently watching

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his movements. Drop after drop was slowly and cautiously measured, yet the hands that held the vials did not tremble. One drop fell upon the side of the lowermost bottle, and she saw how carefully he removed it. Then he began again, and the drops trickled slowly from one vial to the other.

All at once the idea flashed through her mind that what he had in the bottles was intended for her. She could not avoid the suspicious thought; she could not help the quick impulsive action that followed. She opened the long glass door and walked quickly up to his side.

"What are you doing?" she asked abruptly.

She never forgot the terror her sudden appearance caused him.

"Great Heaven!" he cried involuntarily.

He started back, fear and horror in his white face, and in his agitation both bottles fell to the ground. The next moment the room was filled with a faint odor as of peaches. He gave a swift glance at her and one at the fragments; then he made a desperate attempt to recover himself.

"How you startled me!" he exclaimed.

"I am sorry," she said coldly. "I did not mean to startle you. I have been at the window some few minutes, and I wonder you did not see me. How carefully you were measuring that fluid! What was it?"

Angela was not slow to notice the subject terror that came into his eyes; but it lasted only for a moment.

"I have suffered dreadfully from the toothache lately," he explained; "and this was something I had procured for it. I was obliged to measure it carefully; the druggist tells me that it is a poison."

"And meant for me," thought the girl, "as surely as I live!"

"You really startled me," the captain went on. The color was returning slowly to his lips and face. "And now see—I have lost my precious drops!"

"You can get more where those came from," she told him; and he looked with eager piercing eyes into her face.

Nothing was to be learned there; it was quite calm and inscrutable. It was possible that she should have even the faintest suspicion. Why or how should she?

"I thought my nerves were stronger," he said laughingly.

Angela was looking at the fragments of glass on the ground.

"What a strange odor!" she remarked. "It is rather like musk, if anything. I will ring the bell and have the glass taken away."

When the servant answered the summons, he said: "I have had an accident, and have broken two small bottles and spilled some medicine. See that it is all cleared up."

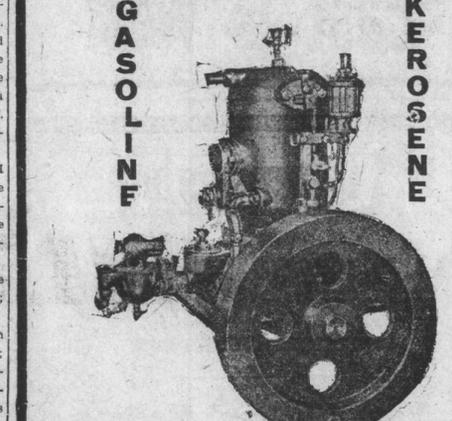
He was not quite himself as he spoke, and his eyes moved restlessly from the servant to Angela. He would not leave the library until the fragments of glass had been removed and the carpet well cleansed. Even when that was done a faint odor as of peaches lingered in the room. He went to his dressing-room, and procured a bottle of strong perfume, which he sprinkled on the carpet, and gradually that overpowered the peach odor. Then he seemed content.



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