

THE WONDER WOMAN

mind," I heard her choked voice stammer, "only because of that, Mr. Dale—only for Joey's sake as you say—I promise if—if you need me—" she came to a dead stop.

"To marry me, Wanza."

"For Joey's sake, Mr. Dale."

"There, Joey!" I shook up his pillow and laid him gently back. "It is all settled, lad. Go to sleep now."

"Kiss me, once, Mr. David."

I kissed him.

"Kiss Wanza, now."

Weariness was heavy in his eyes, his voice was quavering and weak; and forgetting all else but his gratification, forgetting Mrs. Olds, propriety, the consequences of so rash an act, I took Wanza in my arms and kissed her lips, then stumbled blindly from the room.