

"Heaven avert the omen!" she cried, with a shudder. "Oh, Willard! the unclouded moon grew dark even while I spoke."

"And now the cloud is past, and it sails on brighter than ever," he said, with a smile. "See, fairest Sybil, all is calm and peaceful once more. My prediction will be verified, after all."

She drew a deep breath, and looked so intensely relieved that he laughed. Sybil blushed vividly as she said :

"I know you must think me weak and childish; but I am superstitious by nature. Dreams, inspirations and presentiments, that no one else thinks of, are all vivid realities to me. But you promised to tell me the German wizard's prediction concerning your future; so, pray, go on."

"Well, let me see," said Willard Drummond, leaning his head on his hand. "It is no. three years ago that a celebrated Egyptian fortune-teller visited the town in Germany where I resided. His fame soon spread far and wide, and crowds of the credulous came from every part to visit him. He could not speak a word of any language but his own: but he had an interpreter who did all the talking necessary, which was very little."

"I was then at a celebrated university and, with two or three of my fellow-students, resolved, one day, to visit the wizard. Arrived at his house, we were shown into a large room, and called up one by one into the presence of the Egyptian."

"Our object in going was more for sport than anything else; but when we saw the first who was called—a wild, reckless, young fellow, who feared nothing earthly—return pale and serious, our mirth was at an end. One by one the others were called, and all came back grave and thoughtful. By some chance, I was the last."

"I am not like you, bright Sybil, naturally superstitious; but I confess, when the interpreter ushered me into the presence of this wizard, I felt a sort of chilly awe creeping over me. He was the most singular-looking being I ever beheld. His face was exactly like one who has been for some days dead—a sort of dark-greenish white, with pale blue lips, and sharp Asiatic features. His eyes, black, and piercingly sharp, looked forth from two deep caverns of sockets, and seemed the only living feature