

and Mrs. Manning sat quietly enjoying the beautiful scene—the glimmering sheen of silks and velvets, the flash of jewels and the brilliant lights. Dr. Graham was held captive by Marie, whose enthusiastic praise of all the performers was as usual utterly uninteresting. Erica's hero had fled, to Jack's evident amusement, who emphasized his departure by quoting to his cousin:

“ ‘ Why do you run ? ’ the captain cried,
As Pat came hurrying by.
‘ Och ! sure,’ Miss Graham's hero said,
‘ Be gob, Oi cannot fly.’ ”

Keith Graham was bored—infinately bored—and the expression on his face convinced Erica, coming towards him, that his evening was not ending well. She came quickly forward, almost unseen, to her father's side, and quietly introduced Miss Stewart.

And this was Marjorie ! He looked down upon that flower face, into those glorious eyes, noted the tender smile of the perfect mouth, the proud poise of the head, and thought that earth held no fairer, lovelier creature.

And this was his mother's friend ! This