
CHILD OF DESTINY

suddenly. On her deathbed she begged the captain to adopt her little orphaned son. Lawrence did so. The child, Jerome, lived with the Lescots two years before Constance was born.

"Very few about the Place o' Pines ever heard the story. I happened to be a passenger on the steamer when the woman died.

"NANCE DROWLER."

"This letter explains itself," the Cardinal continued. "To-morrow's wedding-bells will be merry ones indeed."

Jerome drew Gracia to his breast and implanted upon her lips a tender kiss.

"God has been kind, and love is all the sweeter now," he said gladly, his eyes gazing into the heart of the golden future.

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