

AMARILLY IN LOVE

met you in the woods this bright and beautiful morning I didn't know what you had heard, and when I divined what you imagined, I couldn't help letting you think the worst until I had your promise."

"It doesn't seem like you, Mr. Derry —"

"I know, dear; but you see Lily Rose made me able to catch the cue quickly. She said you might take me if I needed you, and I do need you. My right hand needs you as much as my left one does. My hand and heart will both be paralyzed if you go back on me now. Won't you forgive me?"

"I forgive you because — well — I think I must always have had in my heart the feeling of a pauperess for her prince toward you."

"Then why were you so persistent in your refusal?"

"I was afraid at first. I thought I ought not to; and then — Oh, Mr. Derry, were you ever so happy in the thought of something coming that you just had to put it off? But I didn't really know until Iry told me you must lose your hand."

"Well," said Derry, "thank the Lord for Dumplings' gun! Dumplings will be glad to learn that his prayer has been granted."