

FATED TO LOVE HER

CHAPTER X.

Proceeding down the lane, they presently encountered an old man mounted on a spirited horse and followed by a boy of dogs. He wore a buff coat and waistcoat, light-colored breeches and huge, horned boots. His face was hard and stolid, the complexion weather-beaten, the blue eyes small and keen, the forehead knotty, bordered on either side by tufts of thick gray hair. The features might have been carved from some rugged rock upon his native moor.

On perceiving James, he drew in his horse and raised his brown straw hat. No smile, no change of any kind, relaxed the rigid countenance. But a certain rough courtesy lurked in his manner as he turned to Gabrielle and acknowledged her presence by a bow.

"You're bound 'ta' park, sir, ta speak ta yer sen. Doctor says as ma lad can't last much longer. Not as O thinks out 'ta' your doctor says. But I can see yer face. An' I'll be goin' ta see yer foot for ye goos; so O' thout O' let ye know aw."

"I'll try to get over to-morrow, Holt. Does he suffer much?" "He doesn't suffer much 'til he gets 'ta' his 'weakness' an' 't' cough. An' he won't lig 't' bed. He wur allus a outdoor lad; an' o' days took thissen, 'e can keep him 't' house. He gien a deal o' trouble 't' 't' time, but that's all 'er. O' man let bygones be bygones, O' reckon."

"You'll not repeat it, Holt, when he's gone." "Mebbe not, as ta 't' lad; but if 'e ever gets hoald o' as has led him a-troo, O'll serve 'em out, an' nooa mistake, soon 'e will, but they'd a let him be, he'd a lived ta shoot ma oies, as he oughter, an' taken 't' farm ther me, an' O did after ma feyther. An' nah he's wasting an' a' wasting! If 'e could, O'd sap 't' loives o' her lads, as they've sapped 't' loive o' moine. O'll neer forg' 'em."

James shook his head. "You will feel differently in a few months' time, Holt," said he. "That way of thinking is not right. We'll talk it over to-morrow."

"All 't' talkin' 't' 't' universe wient change me, sir. Nohbut you yer welcome ta say 'er yer a mind ta say. O'm deeply indebted ta yer, Mester Gordon. If it hadn't a been for ye, he'd happen never a sh' whooman agin. Soor ye'll come ta-torrow, an' good-day ta yer, sir, Good-day, miss."

Setting abrupt spurs to his horse, the old man wheeled around and rode rapidly away in the direction from which he had come, pursued by the dogs, all barking and a cloud of dust.

"That's a curious old specimen of humanity!" said James, looking after him; "there is something grand about him, too—something above the average. I can't help rather admiring that unrelenting spirit, though I feel myself in duty bound to preach its enormity, as best I can."

He passed to the discussion of other topics; and—must it be admitted?—his handsomeness, not the least, united to dissipate the cloud, and he became an Admirable (Orielton) once more.

In the afternoon, Olivia and Gabrielle repaired to the village green; which, he observed, was a model green, fashioned, under James' directions, from the remains of an old common. He had collected every characteristic by which, in fiction, if not always in real life, the village green, time out of mind, has been distinguished. The pool, "gabbed o'er by noisy geese"; the tree, encircled by the wooden seat; the well, with its wooden bucket; the broad expanse of turf, where "the playful children, 'till let loose from school, might scamper at will," all were here.

And here, on this afternoon, the May pole stood, with a flowery throne for the May queen, while around, about—here, there, and everywhere—were scattered, in holiday attire, the country people. Among them, certain young men, about to compete in athletic sports, strutted, minus coat and waistcoat; or, the admiration of all beholders, practical leaps and races, in parties of two and three. The schoolmaster, also master of all ceremonies, was bustling to and fro, shouting directions to a humble satellite, who was engaged in the measurement of distances, and in the adjustment of various knotty points connected with the games. Hard by was a large white tent, in which the country people, among them, certain young men, about to compete in athletic sports, strutted, minus coat and waistcoat; or, the admiration of all beholders, practical leaps and races, in parties of two and three.

So she went, and was duly introduced to the whole party. Shortly after, she found herself standing with James and Miss Featherstone, a little apart from the rest. The Bijou's loveliness was by no means lost upon Gabrielle. She gazed entranced, and drank it in—then looked at James; but his face was, as usual, impenetrable.

"We are off to London next week," "Indeed?" said James. "Of course you are going?" "Not en famille, this year." "Oh!" (with a glance at Gabrielle's mourning) "what will Marian and Cicely say to that?"

"Not a Liniment. The only Household Remedy... PORTER'S ANTISEPTIC... A Splendid Contest Won by the Visitors—Each Side Has Now Won in the Other Side's School."

Yesterday afternoon the Collegiate lecture hall was well filled to hear a debate between two members of Harbord Street Collegiate, Toronto, and two members of Hamilton Collegiate, Toronto was represented by Miss Olive Cross and Mr. R. Wallace, and Hamilton by Miss Alma Harvey and Mr. Roy Edgestone. The subject under discussion was: "Resolved, that all nations should disarm and submit all disputes to international arbitration."

Smith was Government mail driver in Alaska. When he stepped in to visit Mayor McCellan yesterday, he had completed, he said, a trip entirely by land from Nome, finishing it in a month less than two years and a half.

London, April 3.—The Herald says: When seven Alaskan dogs, drawing an Alaskan sled on wheels, trotted into City Hall park yesterday afternoon, their driver, Eli A. Smith, completed probably the longest dog sledging trip on record, finishing it in a month less than two years and a half.

Germany's Heavy Loans For Naval Purposes. London, April 3.—The news given out yesterday of the new German and Prussian loans, amounting to \$162,500,000, came as a surprise to London, and has resulted in much discussion and even in the expression of some distrust of the financial position of Germany.

Did the Bijou know that she was a Bijou? Undoubtedly she knew it; she further derived great satisfaction from this knowledge, but she was not particularly vain. It was the satisfaction of the picture dealer, rather than of the artist. She had been born with a remarkable relish for the comforts and distinctions of this life. To obtain by a good marriage an ample share therein, was at the present moment her ambition; an ambition in which she participated eyes fully participated, feeling that this blessed object attained, her work would be done. For she was her only daughter, and Captain Featherstone her only son, had already secured unto himself two hundred thousand pounds, of which Miss Carew formed the complement.

"Who," said Mrs. Featherstone, "who is that young lady in mourning, so busy among the children? A new face, I think." "She is a cousin—a ward of my brother's," replied Olivia.

"Oh, yes, by the way," cried the addressing herself to James; "we heard the most charming report of her the other day. Will you introduce me?" "Certainly, she is absorbed in the study of cake, you see; but I'll fetch her."

"Oh! pray don't trouble yourself," exclaimed Miss Featherstone, who, if the truth were known, would greatly have preferred a tete-a-tete with James. But he was gone.

"Gabrielle, can you leave this basket to Mary and Fanny? Miss Featherstone—the belle of the West Riding—wishes to be introduced to you."

"To me?" cried Gabrielle, turning and seeing the newcomers; "wait one moment; where are my gloves? My hands are all out of order."

"Oh! that's a matter of course," said James, highly amused; "come along." So she went, and was duly introduced to the whole party. Shortly after, she found herself standing with James and Miss Featherstone, a little apart from the rest.

Smith has won by one day short of a month. He received from the Mayor an autograph letter certifying to his arrival in New York.

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Haines Bros Pianos. Following is the opinion of the world's greatest singer on the merits of Haines Bros. pianos: Craig-y-Nos Castle, Yairadgnialis (Swansea Valley), South Wales.

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