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MISS BLACK AND THE LION (Copyrighted)

By Miss Helena James (Continued from November Issue) (The Story thus far)

Miss Black, at trim young woman one of the nicest homes of the city, in wealthy neighbors is not a member philosophy, Mike." See a TAIT OPTOMETRIST im- of the church and on Sunday morning

Before she goes very far, she meets Mrs. Simple, wife of Judge Simple, who thinks that she may neglect going have watched her developement into to Church to go walking for her figure lovely womanhood, and I tell you if the because Judge Simple gives a yearly devil is going to pitchfork my little subscription of \$1000 to the church.

Mrs. Simple whose only reason for too." joining the church is because of "the respectably" feeling it gives her is quite a gossip. Although Miss Black devil himself, and usuing his pitchdoes not care for the way Mrs. Simple fork on him." talks about everyone she says very who are allowed to join the church. CONCLUSION

Black.

"You must have been about six year He was a recluse, you know."

manservant told my maid, both his parent died in an insane asylum when he was thirteen year old, and at twenty-one a Viennese surgeon removed a tumour from his brain."

"That is exceedingly sad, Mrs. Simple, no wonder he is queer."

"Although he cannot boast of a cultural background, nevertheless he has amassed great wealth. Ilearned from a reliable source that he is the big boss behind the wine racket."

"How interesting! I must hurry home, Mrs. Simple. Ming and I have immensely enjoyed the time spent in your company. Haven't you, Ming Well sav so."

"Yap, yap, yap," barked Ming. As a matter of fact Miss Black had been out much longer that was her custom. Meanwhile, three of her domestic employees (her own term for servants) found time to make her the subject of discussion.

Said the Greek houseman "What a pity madame no go to church. She no Christian, she heathen. I pray God every night, for Christ's sake, make madame Chrstian that she no go to

Asked the Japanese butler, "What say you she is then? She live good, she do goodto you, me, everybody, and you say she no Christian lady, why?"

Then spoke Mary the Irish cook. "Mike, is it possible I understand you clearly? To kill, steal, covet and rape

other people's properties, lie and go to church you are Christian and go to heaven, but to love, in fact to do to the other fellow as you would like him do to you, but fail to become a member of a church, you are a condemned heathlives in the wealthy section, and in en whom God will throw into a furnace of blazing fire for the horned devil until you are compelled by failing the neighborhood of St. Judas Church. with a pitch fork to torment? Somevision to check up on your eyes, it Miss Black, unlike many of her thing is either wrong with you or your

> "Yes, you no go to church you no Christian, I say" was Mike's reaffirmation.

> "Ah Mike, laughed Fraulein, I attended madame since her birth, and mistress, he will have to pitchfork me

"And Fraulein, said Ioto, "If you once get there you will be bossing the

"By the way," said Fraulein, "last little, and wonlers about the people night I had a very vivid dream which has deeply affected me in some strange way. I found myself in hell." "I don't remember the day when the "How terrible, Fraulein" said Mike. place was ever tenanted," replied Miss "You must had bad thoughts before sleep, eh?"

"It was a hell entirely unlike that of of age when that house was closed, my your imagination, Mike, and oh, so dear. Something sinister about that much more awful. There was a gate place which has only housed queer of admission, but no means of exit. tenants. The last person who lived As I stood at an inner gate far from there was found lead-mauled, bruised the entrance, the gate keeper, who was and crushed, and no clue ever found. a leper with mouth swollen to bursting point, said to some one on the other "That sounds like the Rue Morgue side of the fence, "She wants to go." Murder case. Have you learnt the I looked over and saw the man to name of the present tenant, Mrs. whom he spoke sitting on a dais. The left hand was crossed and the right "Mr. Madman, and he lives in that hand supporter his chin while the haunted place with an old manservant elbow restel on the knee. The togo anl his English bull dog, Vicious. His of slightly darker shade than the tunic

(Continued Next Issue)

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