

YOLANDE

By WILLIAM BLACK, AUTHOR OF "SHEPHERD BIRDS," "MIRAMICHI OF DANA," "WARRIOR WIVES," "SICILIANS," ETC.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Another two days passed, Yolande doing her best to make the time go by as pleasantly as possible. They walked on the promenade or pier; they drove away inland through quaint little villages and quiet lanes. When the weather was wet they staid in-doors, and she read to her mother, or they rigged up a big telescope in the bay-window to follow the slow progress of the distant ships. And the strange thing was that, as Yolande gradually perceived, her mother's intelligence seemed to grow clearer and clearer while her spirits grew more depressed.

"I have been in a dream—I have been in a dream," she used to say, "I will try to get back. Yolande, you must help me. You must give me your hand."

"You have been ill, mother; the sea-air will make you strong again," the girl said, making no reference to other matters.

However, that studied silence did not last. On the evening of the fifth day of their stay at Worthing, Yolande observed that her mother seemed still more depressed and almost suffering; and she did all she could to distract her attention and amuse her. At last the poor woman said, looking at her daughter in a curious kind of way:

"Yolande, did you notice when I came away from the house with you that I went back for a moment into my room?"

"Yes, I remember you did."

"I will tell you now why I went back. She put her hand to her pocket and drew out a small blue bottle, which she put on the table. "It was for that," she said, calmly.

A flash of color overspread the hitherto pale features of the girl; it was she who was ashamed and embarrassed; and she said, quickly:

"Yes, I understand, mother—I know what she meant. But now you will put it away; you do not want it any longer?"

"I am afraid," the mother said, in a low voice. "Sometimes I have tried until it seemed as if I were watching, and she brought me to life again. Oh, I hope I shall never touch it again; I want to be with you, walking by your side among the other people, and like them—like every one else."

"And so you shall, mother," Yolande said; and she rose and got hold of the bottle. "I am going to throw this away."

"No, no, Yolande; give it to me," she said, but without any excitement. "It is no use throwing it away. That would make me think of it. I could not rest until I had gone to a chemist and got more—perhaps some time when you are not looking. But when it is there I feel safe. I can push it away from me."

Yolande rose. Her face was pale, her lips firm. She did not look at her mother; but just as if she were assuming her to be asleep, she quietly went out of the room, and presently returned with the glass in her hand, and she poured some of that dark fluid into the glass, no doubt she guessed the poor woman was imagining that this was an experiment to see what had been taken out of the bottle. But that was not quite Yolande's purpose. When she had poured out, as nearly as she could calculate, the same quantity that her mother had taken, she turned her face to the light, and deliberately drank the contents of the glass. It was done in a second; there was a sweet mawkishness upon her mouth, and she shivered with disgust as she swallowed the thing; then she calmly replaced the bottle on the chimney-piece.

But the mother had sprung from her bed with a wild shriek, and caught the girl by both hands.

"Yolande! Yolande! what have you done?"

"What is right for you, mother, is right for me," she said, in a low, settled tone. "It is for me I mean to do ways."

The frantic grief of this poor creature was pitiable to witness. She flung her arms round her daughter, and drew her to her, and wept aloud, and called down vengeance upon herself from Heaven. And then in a passion of remorse she flew at the bottle that was standing on the mantel-piece, and hurled it into her mother's face, and she was struck on the forehead, and she fell back on the floor, and she was dead.

It must stand there until you, and I can bear to know that it is there, and not to wish for it."

Even in the midst of her wild distress and remorse there was one phrase in this speech that had the effect of silencing the hysterical mother, and she drew back, and she was dead.

And then a cry rang through the house like the cry of the Egyptian mothers over the death of their first-born. The mother, who had been directly opposite ways in the brains of these two women—the one it plunged into a profound stupor, and she drew into frenzy. She threw herself on the senseless form, and other her arms round the girl, and shrieked aloud that she had murdered her child—the beautiful daughter—she was dying—dead—and no one to save her—murdered by her own mother! The little household was roused at once. Jane came rushing in terrified. The lady was the first to recover her wits, and instantly she sent a housemaid to a doctor. Jane, being a strong-armed woman, dragged the hysterical mother back from the bed and bathed her young mistress's forehead with eau-de-cologne; it was as if she were trying to calm the mother somewhat, for she was begging them to give her a knife that she might kill herself and die with her child.

The doctor's arrival quieted matters somewhat, and he had scarcely been a minute in the room when his eyes fell on the small blue bottle on the mantel-piece. He instantly got hold of it, and the label told him what were the contents; and when he went back to the mother of the girl, who was lying insensible in a heavy-breathing state, he laid a cooling lotion on her forehead, and he was exercising some control over the mother to get her to show him precisely the nature of the fluid that had been taken. The poor woman seemed bewitched herself. She dropped on her knees before him in a passion of tears, and clasped her hands.

"Save her! save her! I save my child to me! If you can give her back to me I will die a hundred times before hand!"

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"And walking up and down, it will disturb you."

"What does it matter?" said Yolande, cheerfully.

"I am not going into any other room. Do you think I would forsake my patient?"

"Will you leave the light burning, then?"

"If you wish it, yes; but not high, for you must sleep."

But when they were retiring to rest the mother begged that the little blue bottle should be placed on the bedroom chimney-piece, and the girl hesitated.

"Why, mother, why? You surely would not touch it?"

"Oh, I hope not! I hope not! But I shall know it is near—I am like to die."

"You must not fear that, mother. I will put the bottle on the chimney-piece for you like, but you need not even think of it. That is more likely to cause your death than anything else. And you would not break your promise to me?"

She pressed her daughter's hand; then she did not go quickly to sleep, for she knew that her mother was suffering—she labored again, and she would not let her hand rest on the time told her as much. She lay and listened to the wash of the sea along the angle, and to the tramp of the late wayfarers along the pavement. She heard the people of the house go upstairs to bed. And then, by-and-by, she heard a low, wailing cry, and she was up in a moment, and she saw the mother of the young woman, who had been so kind to her, lying on the floor, her eyes slowly closed.

She was waked by a moan—a cry of a soul in mortal agony. She opened her eyes, and she saw her mother lying on the floor, her eyes slowly closed.

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"Save her! save her! I save my child to me! If you can give her back to me I will die a hundred times before hand!"

TO THE PUBLIC!

Post-Master General Graham having published the following facts are given to the public for their information. We are engaged in a business which is of great importance to the public, and we are desirous of making it known to all who are interested in it.

For the month of August, 1888, the following amounts were received from the public for the purchase of stamps:

Post-Master General Graham having published the following facts are given to the public for their information. We are engaged in a business which is of great importance to the public, and we are desirous of making it known to all who are interested in it.

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General Business.

The "Imperial Wringer." AND Wash-tub Stand. Clothes Forks, etc.

New device for convenience on Wash-day—labor and lighten the work left to be done.

LONDON HOUSE. THE SUBSCRIBER will sell the balance of his stock of FANCY GOODS at greatly reduced prices during

Also on hand GROCERIES, PICKLES, SALICES, CANNED GOODS, SPICES, CITRUS, and LEMON PEEL, EXTRACTS, etc.

From the Akron Commercial, Ohio, of Nov. 26th, 1882.

Readers of the Commercial can not fail to be struck by a large space has for years been taken up by advertising for a certain medicine, known as the Spavin Cure. We have had dealings with Dr. Kendall for many years, and we know of some large business houses in cities near by who have also used this medicine for many years, and the results have been most successful.

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GENERAL BUSINESS.

J.B. SNOWBALL'S. Just received per late Steamers from the Manufacturers.

New Ulster Cloths. For Gents Ladies and Children.

Boys' Woollen Knickerbocker Hose. Very Heavy.

A very large stock of German and Canadian Cloths and promenade Scarfs.

Ladies' Berlin Wool Shawls, Ladies Berlin Wool Jackets, Ladies' and Children's Wool Scarfs.

Irish Frieze, For Heavy Overcoats.

Irish and Scotch Tweeds, Newest Styles.

Moscow Homespun, Costume Cloths, Wool Serges, French Cashmeres, French Merinos, Black Scicillians, Black Grecian Cloths, Colored Cloth Debeques, 100 pairs Best White

ENGLISH BLANKETS, 50 pairs Best Twilled

Canadian White Blankets, A few pairs of Super Extra BATH BLANKETS, at reduced price

ALL CHEAP FOR CASH! Chatham, Oct. 18, 1881.

PARSONS' PURGATIVE PILLS. MAKE NEW RICH BLOOD.

MAKING HENS LAY. An English Veterinary Surgeon and Chemist.

G. A. BLAIR, Manchester, has on hand, a superior assortment

READY-MADE CLOTHING. Men's, Youths' & Children's Suits, IN CLOTH, TWEED & VELVET.

FOR SALE. 50,000 BRICKS. 50,000 Face and Common Bricks.

MIRAMICHI BRICK YARD. HARRY FLEET, NELSON, N. B.

CHAMPAGNE. 20 arrived per steamer "Hibernia" via Halifax, 20 baskets Finest Champagne, 10 Cases Sparkling Burgundy & Hook.

JOHN NICHOLSON. Mrs. POTTS' SAD IRONS. Plain, Polished and Nickel-plated.

THE MERCHANTS' BANK OF HALIFAX. PAID UP CAPITAL, \$1,000,000. RESERVE FUND, \$180,000.

Sheriff's Sale. To be sold at Public Auction on Friday the 30th day of November next, in front of the Post Office, in Chatham, between the hours of 12 noon and 5 o'clock, p. m.

WANTED! To take charge of the Primary Department in School District No. 1, Nelson.

2ND OR 3RD CLASS FEMALE TEACHER. Apply, at once, to the undersigned.

Wm. A. Park, Attorney-at-Law, Solicitor, NEWCASTLE, N. B.



Saved Him 1,800 Dollars!

Dr. B. J. Kendall's Spavin Cure. The most successful remedy ever discovered, as it is certain in its effects and does not blister.

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MIRAMICHI STONE WORKS. NORTH-ESK, MIRAMICHI. New Brunswick. Joseph Goodfellow, - - - Proprietor.

CHRISTOPHER, Scythe Stone and Building Stone supplied in any quantity desired at the lowest prices.

BAG SALT. 2,200 BAGS. Liverpool Salt. Geo. S. DeForest, 13 South Water, St. John.

EARTHENWARE, CHINA, LAMPS, ever offered, and at Lowest Prices.