

SIDNEY'S FOLLY

CHAPTER XXI.

For some days after the interview with the detective Sidney... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

She was wretchedly unstrung and excited, far fuller of fear than hope regarding the result of Hopgood's inquiries... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

He had not urged this upon her in the second interview as he had done in the first... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

She had heard nothing further from the detective; night and morning... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

But even if this arsenal of horrors could not conceal the change in her appearance which could not fail to ensue from such intense, ceaseless, as suppressed, excitement... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

He himself was unable to gain a hint at all of his head was completely hidden... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

It was no wonder then that she avoided their gaze on the morning as she addressed her husband with studied calmness... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"What is her illness?" Lloyd asked, glancing over at Dolly as she sat opposite to him... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"Has this young lady seen much trouble then?" "Yes, very terrible trouble," Sidney answered briefly... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"Some disappointment, I suppose?" he suggested. "Does your professional experience tell you that a girl's trouble must be connected with love?" Sidney asked with a little bitter laugh... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"I will tell you," Sidney answered, almost with passion. "She had one brother and she loved him as dearly as she, a ten times more dearly than many women love their lovers... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"You don't understand," she said, striving to steady her trembling lips. "You don't know all the circumstances... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

Stephen went away that morning—for the first time since his marriage—without having locked the door, she sat down before her pretty writing-table and put her hand into the pocket of her cashmere morning-gown... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"I think it right to tell you that I have read what is written there," he said quietly. "I did so unintentionally in lifting the paper from the floor, where I suppose you dropped it."... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"What is it?" she said, standing in the middle of the room, her hands holding tightly the slip of paper that she had taken from him... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"You have read it?" "I have read it," he answered, in a low tone, feeling pained and grieved at the humiliation her tone and manner expressed... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"I cannot help gloating that the 'Christie' spoken of there," he went on, with the same gentleness of manner... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

brought about the result you dread so much. She made no reply. Her excitement was fading away now, and with it her strength... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"Why not?" she echoed bitterly. "You remember what passed in this room half an hour ago, and you ask me to do that!"... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"I have asked him. I have entreated him to do so; but he will not. Ah, if you remember the circumstance you will wonder at it... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"You don't know all the circumstances," she said, striving to steady her trembling lips... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"To you!" he said, in intense surprise. "To me."... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"Lloyd Milner was silent then. Sorry as he had been for Sidney—sorry, and for her husband—a few minutes before, he was doubly sorry now; and although it was impossible that he should guess at all the truth... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"I am an old friend of Stephen's, and, for his sake, I should like to be yours. Believe me when I tell you that nothing but misery can ensue from such a deception as this... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"Do you think I would have tried it?" she cried passionately. "If there had been any other alternative? There is none. He will not let me. He hates Frank, and, if he knew that—"... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

"I think, if he knew that Frank's wife was interested, he would give her his assistance," Lloyd said earnestly... SIDNEY'S FOLLY

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