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The Man From Home... A Novelization of the Play of the Same Name by BOOTH TARKINGTON and HARRY LEON WILSON



"He has betrayed me himself!"

CHAPTER XVII. FATE TO FACE.

If the roof of the building had collapsed and had left the persons there assembled in the room confronting death itself, there could have been no more complete astonishment.

It was Horace who first appreciated the solemnity of the crouching, terror-stricken woman upon the floor.

"Helene!" he whispered, but Pike stepped forward and waved him back. "You stand back!" said the lawyer.

"Ebe's his wife!" And at the words Horace fairly staggered. Daniel went on, pointing to the cowering Hawcastle.

"And there's his best friend." The words seemed to rouse some of the fighting St. Aubyns instinct in the earl, and his eyes flashed.

"It's a lie!" he cried hoarsely. "I never saw the man in all my life before." "The lady seemed to recognize him," said Pike grimly.

"No, no!" cried the countess. "I can't stand it!" Pike laid his hand upon Ivanoff's shoulder and spoke loudly.

"Call 'em in! We're ready!" Almeric, with a frightened glance around, stepped to the doors and threw them wide, calling as he reached the passage.

"Tell that officer to bring his men here!" He turned and again entered the room, and Pike's face lit up unpleasantly as he looked at him, then suddenly as he turned to Ethel.

"I want you always to remember that I consider it cheap at the price," he said. There was a quick step without, and Von Grollenhagen entered, followed by Ribiere.

destruck Hawcastle in the back. "God will let me pay my debt to the Best of Hawcastle!"



"You are addressing the Grand Duke of Russia!"

"Why, you"—the earl began, but Daniel raised his hand. He spoke softly, even gently.

"Oh, I hated to hand you this, my lord," he said. "I didn't come over here to make the fine flower of Europe any more trouble than they've got."

From the other side of the sofa, where she had been sobbing on her brother's shoulder, Ethel came trembling.

"I have no choice," she said slowly. "You see, I gave Almeric my promise when I thought it an honor to bear his name. Now that you have shown me that it is a shame to bear it you see, the shame is not his fault is it? You want—me—to-be—honorable—don't you?"

"When she had finished Daniel was leaning well back on the table. "Your father and mother—both—came from Missouri, didn't they?"

"Don't trouble your words," she said sharply and rose to her feet. With a withering glance at Pike she turned to Ethel.

"Come, my dear," she said. "This terrible place is not for you. Let us go." Horace came suddenly to life and closed his drooping jaw.

"My sister will remain for a time," Lady Creech said. "I will look after her—in the 'ure." Lady Creech put up her lorgnette and stared at him with a haughty smile left the room with the air of a conqueror.

"There goes the last of the empresses," he said and looked down at his feet. Twice Ethel essayed to speak, and twice she put out her hand in his direction, and both times she failed.

The point he had striven for had failed. He had shown this girl the true rottenness of the people she had tried so hard to ally herself with, and the knowledge had failed to move her.

It was not until he saw a dark figure with a bag in its hand walk quickly down the steps and out through the entrance garden, not until he heard the creak of carriage springs and the muttered directions and then the crunch of the wheels, that he awoke.

"Who was that?" he asked. "Mariano," cried deeply. "It is either the Earl of Hawcastle," he replied. "He has gone to keep the faith—he have made some days."

It Is Miserable To Be Dyspeptic.

It is a long time since I have been so miserable as I am now. I have been so long in bed that I have forgotten what it is like to be well. I have been so long in bed that I have forgotten what it is like to be well.

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Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills Healed Mr. Wilson's Sores

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CHAPTER XVII. MISUNDERSTOOD.

LADY CREECH was out early the next morning. Perhaps she had hoped that something might be saved from the wreck and recollected the ancient adage about the early bird. She was seated on the terrace having breakfast and keeping a keen eye on the main entrance when the hopeful Almeric appeared, yawning and impossibly bored.

"Where's your father, Almeric?" she demanded. "Flew the bally coop for Naples last night. Seemed to be jolly well upset, you know. Feared this beastly convict chap would take a shot at him or something like that."

"Behaving very peculiarly—outrageously, I might say." "How?" demanded Almeric, stifling a yawn.

"Bedding tears over this Ivanoff's story. What's more, she has sent that dreadful Pike person to him with assistance."

"Money! By Jove! Good girl! Buying the beggar off to keep him from making a scandal for us! How's that?" Lady Creech looked at him with something akin to admiration.

"Almeric! How clever of you! Of course she is! Your father will be pleased. What a pity he didn't wait!" Daniel appeared at the top of the steps and, seeing the pair, came slowly toward them.

"Oh, yes," the latter answered. "Had to catch a train—the pater had—be's easily worried by trifles, you know."

"Well, you don't worry—not too easy, do you, son?" "Oh, one finds nothing particular this morning to bother one," the young man replied, yawning. "Nothing at all. Of course Miss Ethel is standing by her promise?"

"Yes, she is," replied Pike grimly, and Almeric went on: "Ye-es, the governor only thought it best to clear out a bit until we're certain that she manages to draw off this convict chap—what you Americans call 'fixing him,' isn't it?"

"Don't try to talk United States, son. Just tell me in your own way." "Why," replied Almeric, "she's been giving him money, hasn't she? You took it to him yourself, didn't you? Naturally we understood what it was for. She's trying to keep the beggar quiet."

"So that's what she sent the poor cuss the money for, was it? That's the way you look at it, eh?" the American asked.

"Why, of course! What other reason could there be?" asked the other. "Well, you know I'd sort of gathered it was because she was sorry for him—thought he'd been wronged, but of course, I'm stupid!"

"Well, say-ther! I don't know that it was so necessary for her to hush him up, but it showed a very worthy intention in her, didn't it, eh, how?" Pike looked at him carefully.

"Experience is a great teacher, but you will never be very wise if you have to learn everything the hard way. This country needs better speakers, a good deal more than it needs constant piano players."

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