met before?"

#### By Randall Parrish

apologized, "but there was no time fer ceremony."

She smiled, a flood of color coming back into the clear cheeks, as she erew slightly away.

you have made knighthood real."

receive the reward, fair lady?"

full of challenge. "And what is that?" "Vonr name; the hope of better ac-

Her eyes swept my uniform ques-"You are not of the garrison?"

New York."

"Yet an officer; surely then you will be present tonight?" "The privilege is mine; if sufficiently tempted I may attend."

"Tempted! How, sir?" "By your pledging me a dance."

She laughed again, one hand grasping the long silken skirt.

merely saving me from a mob. You child's play as this." are not a modest knight, I fear. Suppose I refuse?"

unasked, and win my welcome.'

"I thought as much," the long an revoir."

I stood as she left me, staring while she crossed the lawn and a dark-faced officer of Rangers. Once she glanced back over her shoulder. and then disappeared in the crowd of revelers.

I had not intended to remain in Philadelphia through the night. Already I had secured the information sought, and now must consider the safest and quickest method of escape. It seemed to me this night, given up to revelry, afforded the best possible opportunity for my safely passing the British guard lines. Tomorrow discialine would be resumed, the soldiers

fame

Mr.

esta.

and

Page:

begon

E OE

was

PEN

Mon-



Caught Her-the Animal Dashing Forward Beneath the Double Burden

into the Open Field. would return to their posts and the citizens of the city would again ap- altogether wrong?" pear on the streets. This would greatmoment, I might encounter some one of any promise." who knew me, who might denounce'! me to the suthorities.

That this was the exact truth of the situation could not be denied, yet. now, every reckless impulse of my disposition urged me to remain; the invitation of those laughing blue eyes. the challenge I read in the lady's fair face, the unsolved mystery of her identity, all combined in a temptation I found it impossible to resist. For a dance with her, a possible understanding, I was willing to venture life itself.

it must have been nearly nine o'clock when, in company with a young cornet, I rode up to the house given up to festivities, and, turning over our horses to the care of cavalry grooms, climbed the wide steps to the door leading into the hall.

All was a riot of color, rich, bewildering, with smiling faces, and laughing lips everywhere. In such a spot, amid such surroundings, war seemed a dream, a far-off delirium.

My companion disappeared, and, to escape the pressure of those surging back and forth through the wide doorway, I found passage close to the wall, and half circled the room, finally discovering a halting place in the recesses of a window, where, partially concealed myself by flowing curtains, I could gaze out over the brilliant assemblage. Half ashamed of the plainness of my own attire, and feeling a strapger and an allen, I was yet consciously seeking the one face which had lured there.

Enough conversation reached me to discless a promised display of fireworks on the lawn, and almost immediately a magnificent bouquet of rockets shot up into the black sky, illuminating everything with a glare of fire. This was followed by the lighting up at the dazzling scene, when a voice spose at my shoulder.

Tis a relief to see even one so dier present ready for duty."

"You must pardon my roughness" I ter in their depths, the race revealed

clearly in the glare of the rockets. "Necessity only," I managed to reply. "I can be as gorgeous as these

others, had I brought a bag with me.' "No doubt; every British regiment tries to outdo the others in ribbons "I appreciate that, sir," frankly, and gold lace. Really they become shaking out her ruffled skirts, "and tiresome with such foppery in war times. See how they play tonight, "Then," I ventured, "may I hope to like children, the city practically unguarded from attack," she waved an She laughed, a little tremor of ner- ungloved hand toward the dark withvousness in the sound, but her eyes out. "I venture there are men out yonder, sir, who are not dancing and laughing away these hours."

My cheeks burned. "You mean Washington's troops?" "Aye! I saw them here in Philadelphia before Sir William came," her voice lowered, yet carnest, "and they "No: a courier just arrived from are not playing at war; grim, silent, the Forty-second British Foot."

sober-faced men, dressed in odds and ends, not pretty to look at; some tat-Mr. Conway was telling us yesterday of how they suffered all winter long, while we danced and feasted here, lieve." Washington himself sleeping with the snow drifting over him. You do not know the Americans, for you are not "You ask much-my name, a better long across the water, but they are acquaintance, a dance-all this for not the kind to be conquered by such

"You are an American, then?" "By birth, yes," unhesitatingly. "We "Then am I soldier enough to come are of those loyal to the king, butadmire men."

It was with an effort I restrained lashes opening up to me the depths | my words eager to proclaim my serv of the blue eyes. "I promise nothing ice, yet comprehending instantly that then, ner forbid. But there is Captain , I dare not even trust this plain-spoken Grant seeking me. If I do not speak | girl with the truth. She respected the of gratitude, it is nevertheless in my | men, sympathized with the sacrifices heart, sir," she swept me a curtsey, to jof Washington's little army, contractwhich I bowed hat in hand, "and now | ed all they endured with the profligacy of the English and Hessian troops, and et remained loyal to the king's cause

> Even as I hesitated she spoke again. "What is your regiment?" "The Forty-second Foot."

"You have not yet been in action in America?" "No, but I have just crossed the Jer

seys with dispatches." She shook her head, her cheeks glowing.

"My home was there when the war began," she explained simply. "Now is hate, pillage and plunder everywhere. We fled to Philadelphia for our lives, and have almost forgotten we ever had a home. We loyalists are paying a price almost equal to those men with Washington. 'Tis this memory which makes me so bitter toward those who play amid the ruins."

"Yet you have seemed to enter into the gay spirit of the occasion," and my eyes swept over her costume.

"Oh, I am girl enough to enjoy the glitter, even while the woman in me condemns it all. You are a soldiera fighting soldier, I hope—and still you are here also seeking pleasure." "True: I yielded to temptation, but for which I should never have come." "What?"

"The dare in your eyes this afternoon," I said boldly. "But for what read there I should be out yonder riding through the night."

She laughed, yet not wholly at ease. the long lashes drooping over her

"Always the woman; what would you do without my sex to bear your mistakes?"

"But was this a mistake? Did I read

"Don't expect a confession from me. ly intensify my danger, for, at any sir," demurely. "I have no memory

your lips gave; it was the eyes that

"You must have dreamed; perhaps you recall the suggestion?"

"I took it to mean that you would not be altogether averse to meeting me again through the kindness of some mutual friend."

"I have scarcely seen a face I know ! guess from what place of mystery you only suggest." appeared so suddenly. So now 1

throw myself upon your mercy." "I wonder is it quite safe!" hesitatingly. "But, perhaps, the risk is fore my gaze. lights go on again."

friendship than to that measure?"

and there are many names already on | your leaving me." my card-"

into mine provokingly. "And I had against the wall where we left him, Grant is coming this way now. Someforgotten it all; did I indeed promise his eyes fastened moodily on the thing is wrong, I am sure; I have no

"Only with your eyes."

Well, for once, at least, I will redeem brushing my lips, her steps lightly fol- sistent I could not refuse, although as even that visionary pledge," and her lowing the music, her eye downcast. I glanced about I felt convinced 2 initialed monarch robes, new. glance swept the room hastily. "But I Into the cheeks there came a flush of there was no danger in this assem- I fur lined coat, new, medium size. advise that you accept my surrender pink, and she glanced up to read the blage, not a familiar face meeting quickly, sir-I am not sure but this surprise in my face. was Captain Grant's dance, and he is coming now."

# CHAPTER IV.

The Beginning of Trouble. ing of balloons high overhead. Attract- ready around her waist, when the offi- love of country." ed by the spectacle, I was staring out cer bowed before us. He had been I felt the closer clasp of her fingers

but a dim figure in the afternoon, but now I saw him for a tall, slender man, somewhat swartby of face, with black I turned to look into a pair of steady hair and moustache, and a keen eye, blue eyes, with a bit of mocking laugh- attired in the green and white of the

Queen's Rangers. He smiled, but with a sarcastic curl to the upper lip not altogether bleasant.

said boldly, swcoping me with a supercilious glance, "but am I mistaken in believing this waltz was pledged to

"By mistake, captain," her livs smiling, her eyes steady. "It seems I overlooked a promise made during the afternoon."

"Oh, indeed," he turned toward me, staring insolently. "The hero of the rescue, I presume."

I felt-he restraining pressure of her hand upon my sleeve, and her voice replied calmly, before I succeeded in

"This is the gentleman who protected me from the mob, if that is what you mean. Permit me to present Captain Grant of the Queen's Rangers, Lieutenant-pardon my having already forgotten your name."

"Fortesque," I stammered, intensely ity." hating the necessary deception. "Ah, yes-Lieutenant Fortesque of

ladies present, and, no doubt, your gallant act was worthy the reward; a tioned eagerly. pleasant evening, sir," and he withdrew aside, stiffly military. Eager to lose as little as possible of the measure, I swung my partner forward, der. I realized all you meant, an catching glimpse again of the man's you must not remain. The guard lines face as we circled.

"Pleasant disposition," I ventured, without meaning to be uncivil.

frankly. "But you must not quarrel cause." with him; that is his one specialty, you know.

"Is the warning on your account, or my own?"

"Both, perhaps. Captain Grant's family and mine are neighbors-or were before war intervened-and be tween our fathers exists a life-long friendship. I could never consent to anyone, and I have reason to know how quick tempered he is."

"I have little use for any man who



"If I Leave You Now as You Request I Must First Have Promise of Welcome Again."

"No, the barest suggestion was all tain Grant's courage has been suffi- ish commanders means the early evac- he first left me alone, only I was not ciently tested already. I warn you uation of the city. When we meet not to presume on your theory so far again you will not be a lady of the

"What is that?"

Her eyes met mine, smiling slightly, and yet grave enough in their depthe "To let this one dance prove suffi-"No doubt you have found such a cient reward for your act of rescue." is most becoming. I-I have a pas-

"You request this?" "Oh, you must not place the entire tonight," I pleaded. "I cannot even burden of decision on me, sir. I can

"Has Captain Grant any authority now?" to dictate who shall be your partner?"

and generally with fair success. I previously concealed by draperles, "And the band plays a Hungarian must ask to be excused from discuss- were suddenly flung wide open, rewaltz; how better could we cement ing this matter further now, but-but," | vealing a magnificent dining hall.

"Do not look," I interrupted swiftly, by wondering if she suspected me, for she grasped my sleeve, my whole thought was concentrated will leave here at once." "Oh, my eyes! always my eyes! on the girl, the strands of her hair | Her eyes, her words, were so in- I sett single harness, nearly new.

"Do I need to say more?"

cause of personal fear."

a deep breath of surprise.

"Lean your head just a little closer," she whispered. "I-I know you, Ma- Fortesque." for Lawrence, and-and I wish you

How I kept to the measure I cannot imagine, for, in an instant, all my house of cards crumbled into nothing- me a moment after I have found the "Your pardon, Mistress Claire," he ness. She knew me, this blue-eyed lady a seat?" he questioned politcly. girl; knew me, and sought to aid my mission, this daughter of a lovalist this lady of the Blended Rose. It was inconceivable, and yet a fact-my | we say the parlor below?" name had been whispered by her lips. Suddenly she looked up laughing, as | peal in the lady's face, yet with no though to make others feel that we

> they would not be restrained. "You certainly startled me: how do von know this? Surely we have never

conversed lightly. We passed Grant,

even as I held my breath, almost

"I refuse to be questioned, sir; i means nothing how I know-the fact that I do should be sufficient." "Must Mistress Claire-"

"Rather Mistress Mortimer." "Yet the captain called you Claire, "And we were children togetheryou can scarcely claim such familiar

"I warrant you can name me." "Allen, is it not, sir?"

What was it the witch did not know We bowed coldly, neither extending This was no guess work, surely, and a hand, the captain twisting his mus- yet how could her strange knowledge tered and hungry, but they fight hard. tache as he continued staring at me. be accounted for? Sweet as the face "Fortesque," he repeated slowly. was, greatly as it had attracted me "Fortesque; not of this garrison, I be- there was nothing to awaken a throl of memory. Surely I could never hav "No, from New York," coolly. "I re- seen her before, and forgotten: that gret having interfered with your pro- would have been impossible. The mu sic ceased, leaving us at the farther "Don't mention it; there are other extremity of the hall.

"And now you will go?" she que: "You mean, leave here?"

"Yes; you said once tonight, that but for me you would be riding you are slack tonight, and you can get through, but if you wait until tomorrow it may be too late. Believe me, I "Oh, very," and her eyes met mine am your friend, a friend of your

> "I do believe you; I could not connect you with deceit, but I am bewildered at this sudden exposure. Does Captain Grant also suspect my iden-

"I think not-not yet, at least, for i he did you would be under arrest. But there are others here who would recognize you just as I have. There is be the cause of his quarreling with no mystery about it. I was in Philadelphia when the Continental troops were here, and you were pointed out to me then. No, we have never met yet I was sure I recognized you this afternoon."

"I was pointed out to you b, "My brother-my twin brother o the staff of General Lec."

"Did you not inform me your famil were loyalists?" "Yes; it is true," earnestly, her foo tapping the floor, as though annoyed at such persistent questioning. have a father and brother in the king's service-but one is a renegade

and I-I-" "You are what?" "I am merely a woman, sir, unable to determine whether to finally be

come loyalist or rebel." I looked gravely into her eyes until they fell, veiling their revelation of truth behind long lashes.

"Mistress Mortimer." I murmured bending so close to her pink ear, I felt the soft touch of her hair on my lips. you dissemble so charmingly as to even puzzle me. But if I leave you now, as you request, I must first have no doubt, but he," the soft voice falpromise of welcome again."

"Then you mean to return-a prisoner? I am always merciful to the suffering."

turned, as she nesitated. "It has been delphia victors, and soon. I am not less. I am only glad I knew the way." my experience that there is usually afraid to tell you. I have learned : "You mean how you might reach me cowardice back of such a disposition." | much today, and go back to report to | first?" "Not in this case," earnestly. "Cap- Washington that the exchange of Britas he is concerned. I advise the safer Blended Rose, nor will I be wearing and down the back stairs; I helped this uniform."

Her eyes sparkled brightly into mine, then dropped demurely.

sion for masquerade." "I recognize that, but have already

discovered where I can read the truth beyond the masque-what is occurring

Her lashes lifted, and then fell be- had been by the change and bustle about us. A few feet from where we equally great on your part. Ah! the ! "He at least assumes the power, stood conversing, large folding doors, her voice trembled to a whisper, "I-I Dazzled by the magnificent spectacle, "You think so? I am not so sure, am sure your safety depends upon I turned to my companion, unable to resist temptation. She must have in-Astonished by these words, sudden- stantly read the purpose in my face,

"for I claim first choice since this scarcely comprehending what she No; you must not think of remainmeant, I stared into her face, as we ling a moment longer. There will be 2 "You do?" and her eyes laughed circled the room. Grant stood stiffly a seat reserved for me, and Captain crowd: I realized his presence, yet time to explain, but promise me you

> mine. At the instant Grant came up elbowing his way through the press, "Yes, you must," I insisted, "you can and staring insolently into my eyes, never believe I would leave you be- even as he bowed politely to the lady 2 second hand Eishop Robes. beside me.

"I did not know-at first. Now I | "At least this is my privilege," he realize it will require a higher motive insisted, "unless there be another pre-

rant." "Oh, no," and she rested her hands on my guiding hand, and knew I took on the green sleeve, smiling from his

They had taken a step or two, when W. A. Falling Grant halted, holding her arm tightly

as he glanced back to where I stood. "Would Lieutenant Fortesque spare "Cladly, if you do not keep me

waiting too long." "Then there will be no delay. Shall I mowed, conscious of the mute ap-

excuse for refusal. "As well there as anywhere, sir."

Once again we bowed with all the afraid to venture with words. Yet punctilious ceremony of mutual dis like, and he whispered something into her ear as they disappeared in the stream of people. My cheeks burned with indignation at his cool insolence. What could it mean? Was he merely seeking a guarrel? or was there some-

thing else concealed behind this re quest? In either case I knew not how to act, and yet felt no inclination to avoid the meeting. Studying over the situation I pushed my way through the crowd across the floor of the ball room. There were a few people still lingering on the stairs, but, except for the servants, the parlors below were deserted. I walked the length of one of the great rooms, and halted in front of a fireplace to await Grant's coming. I was eager to have this affair settled, and be off. I comprehended now the risk I had assumed by remaining so long, and began to feel the cords of entanglement drawing about me. There was a door opposite where I stood, and, staring toward it, I saw it open slightly, and, back in the darkness, the beckoning of a hand. Startled, yet realizing that it must mean me, I stepped closer, the afternoon, and she couldn't refuse a clear deed with property, apgripping the hilt of my sword, half dancing with him, as he was in uni- him to H. Lacev. box 25. "kfield. suspecting treachery.

"Quick," and I recognized the deep vise you to drop that part of the afcontralto of the voice. "Don't stop to | fair. Here's Carter now." question: there is not a moment to

### CHAPTER V.

The Threat of Swords. stepping from the glare of those gleaming parlor lights into the gloom of that narrow passage, blinded me for the instant, yet a moment later, I became aware of the distant glimmer of a candle, the faint reflection revealing

the girl's face. "Please do not talk; do not ask any thing-yet," she urged hurriedly. noiselessly closing the door at my back, and as instantly gripping my sleeve. Her breath came quickly; her voice trembled from surpressed excitement. "Come with me, beyond the light yonder."

I followed her guidance, bewildered Twenty-one, in the 5th Concession of yet having every confidence the reason for this mysterious occurrence must be fully justified. The passage curved slightly, terminating at a closed door. Scarce a reflection of the candle reached us here, yet my eyes were by now sufficiently accustomed to the gloom so that I could trace the outlines of her face. A vague doubt took

possession of me. "You are causing me to run away from Grant," I protested blindly. "You are making me appear afraid to meet

"No. it is not that," swiftly. "He was not coming to you personally at all-you were to be arrested?"

"What! He knew me then?" "I am not sure-some one did, and mentioned his suspicions. Captain Grant was glad enough of an excuse, tering, "he made a mistake in twitting me for being friendly toward you."

"And you came to warn, to save me!" I exclaimed, pressing her hand. "No; we are coming back to Phila- ! "That was nothing; I could do no !

"Yes; it came to me in a flash when certain in which parlor you would be waiting. I ran through the kitchen

# wearing now, and am sure this dress Sale Jan. 24, '14

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the officers plan their decolations, and FOR SALE OR TO RENT in that way learned of this private passage beneath the stairs. It was leasy, but-oh, listen! they are in

boomed some one hoarsely, "either P. O.

afraid, or else what you say he is

here lately in scarlet jacket?"

over dar' cleanin' de sideboa'd."

What next, MacHugh?"

volved, eh?"

Emily.

See here, boy, did you see anyone in

"I don' just 'member, sah," answere

tain," broke in Grant impatiently,

"Try to head him off before he can

get out of the city, of course. That's

his game, probably. Osborne, have

Carter come here at once. Why didn't

"Something besides military duty in-

"I'll trouble you to be a trifle more

careful, MacHugh," Grant said stiffly.

(To be coatinged.)

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Jos. Meehan, auctioneer, credit sale

of farm stock and implements, th

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acres, being south half of Lot

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a negro, hesitatingly. "I was busy

there now!"

tionless and silent.

FARM FOR SALE-Being the west half of lot 32, first Concession Township of Fenelon, on the Victoria Road, containing one hundred acres We could hear voices through the inmore or less. Less one fifth an acre tervening wall clearly enough to even taken off for long Point Methodist distinguish words, as the speakers ex- Church on the farm. Post office on ercised little restraint. I felt the girl's the adjoining farm. Sixty acres under cultivation, balance second narrow space where we stood, and growth timber, suitable for ranch or clung to her hand, both remaining mograin. For further particulars apply to Myles Haygarth, Victoria Road "That fellow has run. Grant."

FARM TO RENT-100 acres, 85 cleared and in good state of cultivation, lot north half of 3, con. 10, Emily, 6 miles from Lindsay, two miles from "Well, he's not here now, that's cer- church, school, post office and twostores. Leading road from Lindsay. "and we've been in all the parlors? Buildings on farm medium. For particulars apply to W. O'Neil, Lindsay,

FOR SALE-in the beautiful village you nab the fellow upstairs, Captain? of Kirkfield, one frame house with Fool play that, sending him down good stone cellar, soft water cistern with pump, and an acre of land, sta-"I didn't wish to create a row in the ble for two horses and a cow. 4 hea ball-room; he was with Claire Morti- pens well wired, six beautiful maple shade trees in front with property "Oh, I see," laughing coarsely. adjoining worth two thousand dollars. Just the spot for a retired farmer. Three churches, large school and good stores, and a good doctor in "The fellow did her a small service in | village. For price and all particulars, form, and apparently all right. I ad-

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