

two keys to a cabin

by Lida Larrimore

John got up as Gay's mother rose from the love-seat on which they sat.

"So I suppose, I'll have to forgive you," she said, smiling up at him with Gay's smile and Gay's trick of crinkling her eyes. "I was prepared to dislike you intensely."

"Now, Kitty," her husband said with indulgent fondness, "you've never disliked anybody. It's your all-inclusive love for your fellow-men which keeps getting you into trouble."

"That's unkind of you, Robert," she linked her arm through her husband's. "What will John think of me?"

"I think you are very kind," he said, realizing that the reply was inadequate, seeing and resenting the amusement in her deep blue eyes, so like Gay's.

"Kindness is an endearing trait in a mother-in-law," Robert Cameron said cheerfully. He consulted his watch. "My dear, we must be on our way."

"We're going to the theater with the Davenports," she said in the way she had of seeming to share an intimate confidence. "They've just become grandparents and need cheering."

The Japanese house-boy came into the room. She spoke to him about sailing for the car. John watched her pleasant manner with the servant. She was prettier than Gay, he thought, but less beautiful, smaller, softer, more rounded. Her hair which had been dark was, prematurely, turning white. Cut short and curled, it looked like a wig for fancy dress rather than a symbol of age. Her skin, in the diffused light which filled the long high-ceilinged room, had a honey-colored tint and her small pretty mouth was painted the exact shade of the coral azalea against her shoulder. She didn't look like anybody's mother. It was difficult to realize, in spite of certain points of resemblance, that she bore so close a relationship to Gay.

She turned to him as the house-boy slid noiselessly out of the room. "We must get acquainted tomorrow," she said, laying a small jeweled hand on his arm. "But no—! You and Gay will be leaving for Dunedin fairly early. Christmas dinner, there, is always at two." She glanced up at her husband, smiling through narrowed eyes.

"If we're to see any of the first-act at all—" her husband said a trifle hastily.

"Yes, darling." She turned again to John. "Perhaps we'll see you later. If not, good-night. Suki will take care of you. You are very welcome here. We want you to feel at home."

He would like to feel at home. But how could he, how could anybody feel at home in this room? It was as artificial as the silvered wreaths which hung in the windows, as the Christmas tree, silvered too, reflecting its fantastic dazle of blue lights and twisted glass icicles in a wall formed by mirrors, cut into sections by strips of chremlum.

"Well, what do you make of it?" He turned guiltily, conscious of some possible rudeness, then relaxed. Gay was walking toward him, so lovely in the dress of deep blue velvet she'd worn at dinner that his breath caught in his throat. She came up to where he stood and slipped her hand through his arm. "What were you thinking?" she asked, smiling up at him with amusement in her eyes. "You looked startled when I spoke to you."

"I was afraid someone had caught me being critical of the decorations." He turned again to the panel above the fire. "What is it?" he asked. "Flowers? Fruit?"

"It's a color note." Her smile deepened.

"Then it doesn't mean anything?"

"Not to me. Don't puzzle your head over it, my sweet. If you do, you'll go quietly mad." She led him to the davenport which stood facing the fire. He sank down beside her into soft leather upholstery. "Mother had all this done to occupy her mind when she found she hadn't a wedding to arrange. Besides Cedric needed the money."

"Cedric?"

"The earnest young man who had the brainstorm. It has made him. He has more commissions than he can handle. He regards Kitty as a cross between Lady Bountiful and a fairy with a wand, which is very flattering, of course. How did you get on with her?" She asked the question lightly, but he felt her waiting a little apprehensively for his reply.

"She's lovely to look at," he said guardedly, "and very kind."

Gay looked up at him.

"But—? I want you to tell me what you think of everything. No reservations. They lead to misunderstandings." Her face was grave. "Be frank with me, John."

"I'll try to be frank. It sounds ridiculous, I know, but I think I'd feel more comfortable if she hadn't received me so courteously."

"Why?" Gay asked in surprise.

"Well, after bracing myself to face the opposition I expected, it's a little disconcerting to have your mother, figuratively, at least receive me with open arms."

She laughed in genuine amusement. "Did you want to fight dragons, darling?"

"I suppose I did." He laughed with her.

"Well, cheer up. There's Aunt Flora in the offing."

"Who is Aunt Flora? Is she a dragon?"

"She's my father's sister, a widow. She's lived with him since Mother's defection. No, she isn't a dragon. She's pathetic, really. She persists in observing the conventions of a polite world of society which is past and gone. And she expects other people to observe them. She won't receive you with open arms. Not that she blames you for the recent catastrophe, though. She tells me that I am my mother's daughter."

"You aren't like your mother, except in certain superficial points of physical resemblance."

She looked at him, considering, looked away.

"Have I offended you?" he asked, realizing that he had spoken with more warmth than the comment required. "I didn't mean—Your mother is charming."

"I wasn't offended." She took his hand in hers. "I was wondering how I could explain Mother to you. No, I'm not like her. I wish I were. Mother is really very logical. When places or people bore her she sees no reason why she should pretend that they mean anything to her. She was bored with Dad and so she divorced him and married Major Summerfield."

"You mean—Mr. Cameron is her third husband? I heard her speak of a Major Summerfield at dinner, but I had no idea—"

"She's on friendly terms with both Dad and the Major," Gay said but her smile wavered a little. "She doesn't dislike them because they have had to hurt them but she says no reason in continuing a relationship which was no longer agreeable. You look horrified, John." She dropped his hand. "I don't suppose you can understand."

"I was thinking how—confusing it must have been for you," he said slowly.

"It was, until I was old enough to understand Mother's point of view. Now, it's all very simple. Mother has never cared deeply for anyone. It isn't in her nature to cling to things, though she's loyal in her way, and generous and kind. That's why she looks as she does. She has no regrets for anything that has happened. She gave Dad a great deal of happiness while she was his wife, the Major, too, I suppose, though I was with them very little. Robert adores her." She changed her position and laughed. "How solemn we're being! We weren't solemn today. Did you enjoy seeing New York in a snowstorm?"

"I enjoy being with you wherever you are, though 'enjoy' is much too polite a word."

"Those first few days at the cabin—We were so polite to each other."

"I can barely remember. I wish we were there now."

"So do I. Thinking of the woods in a snow-storm makes all this seem like a stage-setting, doesn't it? Do you remember when you asked me if I would love you when we were together in New York?"

"Yes—" He held her closer. "I was afraid to come."

"But you aren't afraid now."

"No. But I can't believe it's true."

"Dear, dear!" She lifted her head from his shoulder and, smiling, drew an exaggerated sigh. "Convincing you is certainly up-hill work. You're the most obstinate person I know."

"I guess you're right. I loved you pretty stubbornly for six years."

"It has its advantages, hasn't it?" She looked at him gravely, her eyes soft and bright. "I love you," she said.

He drew her close to him. "I love you," he said, his lips against her cheek.

At a repeated sound from behind them, Gay drew away somewhat hastily. John, too, turned. The Japanese house-boy, his face discreetly expressionless, stood just inside the room.

"What is it, Suki?" Gay asked.

"Company come, please. Gentleman, ladies call up from below. Say send down elevator, please."

"Good-Heavens!" She looked at him in dismay. "I might have known—I should have told them we were going out to the country."

"Tell them now."

She shook her head. "Who is it, Suki?"

"Miss Wales. Mrs. Howard. Lady not say gentleman's name."

"Send the elevator down."

The house-boy bowed himself out of the room. She turned to John. Her face cleared. She laughed. "You look frightened."

"I'm terrified."

"If I refused to let them meet you, they'd think you weren't presentable. I want them to meet you. I'm proud of you. You look grand in evening clothes. You ought to wear them always."

"I might get a job as a waiter." He caught her hand. "I won't know what to say to them."

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PHONE 167 GEORGETOWN

LOCAL NEWS

—Christmas three weeks from tomorrow. Do your shopping early.

—The W.A. of the Lorne Scots will meet at the home of Mrs. John R. Barber on Thursday evening, Dec. 4th, at 8 p.m.

—Arthur Shain will hold an auction sale of Dairy Cows and Heifers, on Thursday, Dec. 18th. Particulars next week.

—The Daughters of the Church will hold a sale of home-made baking and aprons on Saturday, Dec. 6th, 3 p.m., in the McGibbon block.

—Enchre in the Legion Rooms, Wednesday, Dec. 10th. Proceeds for the W.A. to the Legion Soldiers' Fund. Good prizes. Everybody welcome. Admission 25c.

—Rex Frost's "Cavalcade of Europe" film and lecture, Legion Hall, Friday, Dec. 5th, 8.30. Limehouse W.I. war workers. Admission 25c and 15c. Also draw on hand-made quilt.

—Ashgrove W.A. are holding a social and sale of aprons, baking and candy in the basement of the church, Monday evening, Dec. 8th. Program includes Alka Seltzer quiz, lunch served. Admission 25c and 10c.

—With the local dairies going on afternoon delivery on Monday, a number of households were without milk on Monday morning, when they forgot to lay in a supply on Sunday. However we are on to the new routine now.

—The pupils of S. S. No. 6, Esquesing (Stewarttown), will hold their annual entertainment and Christmas tree in the schoolhouse on Thursday, Dec. 11th. Proceeds in aid of B.W.V. Fund. Admission 25c and 15c.

—The Esquering Federation of Agriculture and the Norval Junior Farmers will hold a social evening in Norval Parish Hall on Thursday evening, December 11th. Entertainment and music. Mr. Alex. McKinney, of Brampton will be the speaker. Ladies please provide the sandwiches. Everyone welcome. Admission free. 8 p.m. E.S.T.

—S. P. Chapman draws our attention to the fact that the Japanese press has commenced calling her neighbours the A B C D group. Perhaps this could be intended to imply that the A B C D double F combine (American, British, Chinese, Dutch, Emancipated Free French) is proving a better risk than the N S F (Nazi, Shinloist, Fascist) bunch.

—All children living in Georgetown, under the age of 11 years, whose fathers are overseas, are invited to the Legion Christmas Tree in the Legion Rooms—Tuesday, December 23rd, 7.30 p.m. Parents are requested to leave the children's names at Chapman's Drug Store, immediately if this has not already been done, in order that everyone may be looked after. Remember the date—Tuesday, December 23rd, 7.30 p.m.

CHURCH NEWS

St. George's Church
Rev. W. G. O. Thompson, Rector.
Second Sunday in Advent (Bible Sunday): Sunday school 10 a.m., Holy Communion 11 a.m. Evensong 7 p.m.

St. Alban's Church, Glen Williams
Second Sunday in Advent (Bible Sunday): Sunday School 2:00 p.m. Evensong and Litany 3:00 p.m.

The United Church of Canada, Georgetown
Rev. R. C. Todd, B.A., Minister.
10 a.m. Sunday School.
11 a.m. Public worship. Everyone is invited to come and hear two Emmanuel College students—Mr. Arthur Dayfoot and Mr. Norman MacKenzie, speak briefly on experiences in practical Christianity.
7 p.m. Evening devotions, sermon topic "A Monkey's Business."

Baptist Church
Minister—Rev. J. E. Ostrom.
Thursday, Dec. 4th—Let us go up to His House of prayer at 8 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 7th—2:30 Bible School Hour. 7 p.m. Evening worship. Subject: "The Bible—Source Book of True Living." Welcome.

St. John's Church, Stewarttown
Rev. S. R. Colebrook, Rector.
9:30 a.m. Holy Communion.
10:30 a.m. Sunday school.

St. Paul's Church, Norval
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion.
1:30 p.m. Sunday school.

St. Stephen's Church, Hornby
3 p.m. Evening prayer.

Knox Presbyterian Church, Georgetown
Rev. Chas. C. Cochrane, B.A. Minister.
10:00 a.m. Sunday school; Bible Class.

11:00 a.m. Public worship.
7:00 p.m. Public worship.
8:00 p.m. Monday, Y.P.S.

Limehouse Presbyterian Church
1:30 (EST) Sunday school; Bible Class.
2:30 (EST) Public worship.
8:00 (EST) Tuesday, Y.P.S.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR RENT
Bright heated apartment. Apply: H. C. DAYFOOT, Phone 17J

FOR SALE
Coal and wood annex. Apply at HERALD OFFICE.

FOR SALE
One go-cart, in good condition; very reasonable. Apply: HERALD OFFICE.

FOR SALE
Quebec heater style range, with water front, hot water tank and fittings. Can be seen at Silvercreek Garage. Phone 395 r 2.

FOR SALE
Girl's bicycle, in good condition. Apply: HARRY HALE, Phone 261.

STOVE FOR SALE
Souvenir range, in good condition. Will sell cheap. Apply: MRS. R. ANDREWS, 11p Main St., next Baptist Church

FOR RENT
3 Rooms with cellar, on ground floor. Possession immediately. Apply: MRS. K. HUNTER, Main Street, North.

FOR SALE
Several young pigs for sale. Apply: J. BLACK, Phone 48 r 21, Georgetown

HELP WANTED
Girl for housework in Toronto, live in; excellent wages. Apply: HERALD OFFICE.

FOR SALE
Bedroom suite, Quebec heater, almost new. Apply: MRS. A. R. VANNATTER, Phone 323.

HELP WANTED
Girl to do housework, two adults and one child, modern home. Salary \$20.00 monthly. Apply: MRS. LOTT, 4 Riverside Trail, Toronto. Phone: Junction 4890.

GARAGE FOR RENT
Garage for rent on Queen Street, immediate possession, entrance on Albert Street; \$2.00 monthly. Apply: W. C. BIEHN, Herald Office

WANTED
Feathers, feather beds of all descriptions. Highest prices paid. Send particulars to: QUEEN CITY FEATHER CO., 23 Baldwin St., Toronto.

FOR RENT
3 roomed apartment, with bath. Apply at HERALD OFFICE

LOST
Blue-tick female foxhound, lost in vicinity of Speyside, Reward. Write: A. E. LYONS, Erindale.

WANTED
Live and dressed poultry. Highest market prices. A. BARNETT & SON, Huttonville, Phone Brampton 343 r 14, reverse charges

EXECUTORS' AUCTION SALE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND FURNITURE AND REAL ESTATE
The undersigned has been instructed by Janet McDougall and William G. Marshall, Executors of the

ESTATE OF ANNIE LANE,
late of the Town of Georgetown, in the County of Halton, widow, deceased, to sell by public auction on

SATURDAY, THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, 1941
at the hour of two o'clock (D.S.T.) in the afternoon, at the late residence of the said deceased on Queen Street, the following:

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND FURNITURE—1 oak dining room table; 8 oak dining room chairs; 1 china cabinet; 1 rocking chair; 1 rocking chair (heather); 3 piece parlor suite (mahogany); 3 iron beds, springs and mattresses; 3 dressers; 3 washstands; sewing machine; 1 Happy Thought range; 1 grandfather clock; 1 kitchen table; 4 small tables; 2 rugs; 2 Consolem rug; stair carpet; 1 lawn mower; garden tools; dishes and numerous other miscellaneous articles.

REAL ESTATE—Part of Lot Three on the Southeastly side of Queen Street, in the said Town of Georgetown, more particularly described in Instrument Number 3135 "G" for Georgetown.

TERMS: Household goods and furniture, cash. The above real estate will be offered for sale free from encumbrances and subject to a reserve bid. Ten per cent to be paid at the time of sale and the balance within fifteen days.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to DALE AND BENNETT, Georgetown, Ontario, Solicitors for the Executors.

FRANK PETOE, Auctioneer



"What do I say to me?" "I tell you I love you." Her brows lifted. "You can omit that. Don't be frightened. They're really quite harmless."

"If you would coach me a little—" "Oh, John!" She kissed him, but absently, he thought. Her expression was thoughtful, a little apprehensive as she pulled him up from the davenport, as they walked through soft glow of concealed lighting through the frosty glitter of the Christmas tree toward the door to greet her friends.

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| Aylmer Catsup 12 oz. Bottles | 2 for 25c |
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| Aylmer Golden Corn | 2 tins 21c |
| Aylmer Tomato Juice 3 20 oz. Tins | 25c |
| Aylmer Vegetable Juice 10 oz. Tin | 10c |
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| SEEDLESS RAISINS 2 lb. 23c | Meats |
| RECLEANNED CURRANTS 2 lb. 27c | COTTAGE ROLL lb 31c |
| FRESH PITTED DATES lb. 22c | BREAKFAST BACON lb. 41c |
| Fresh Cut MIXED PEEL lb. 29c | PEAMEAL BACON lb. 45c |
| P & G Soap 10 bars 49c | DEVON WEINERS lb. 24c |
| PALMOLIVE and LUX SOAP 4 bars 25c | DUTCH LOAF lb. 27c |
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| ORANGES, 220's 49c Dozen | FRESH CARROTS 3 lb. 13c |
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| BANANAS 2 lb. 19c | FRESH SPINACH 2 lb. 13c |
| COOKING APPLES bskt. 29c | WHITE CELERY Stalks 2 - 17c |

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