

The Free Press Short Story

STAR OF FAITH

EARL REED SILVERS

STAR twinkled in the sky, but the road, where it entered the stretch of pine woods two miles to the north of town, was almost in complete darkness.

Johnston had sold his furniture for all that it would bring, and had withdrawn from college. He had no relatives -- he and his father had been the last surviving members of the family -- but he had hoped to make some business connection through his friends.

On this particular night a man sat on the railing of a bridge extending across the stream. He was a young man, hardly more than twenty-two, but his face was marked by deep lines of worry and the look in his eyes was one of discouragement.

He knew nothing about Journalism. The days were marked by a struggle for subsistence, for food to eat and clothes to wear. His early training had taught him how to spend money, but not how to earn it.

It was strange, reflected Johnston moodily, but he had known a boy named Bradley in college in those happy days when he had possessed money, friends, and bright prospects of the future.

Most of all, however, he recalled the evening "sings" on the steps of the dormitory. Five hundred youthful voices pledging loyalty to the college! Five hundred potential sons singing to Alma Mater.

Johnston had decided to rob a man named Bradley, to relieve him of a sum of money he would have in his possession as treasurer of the Emergency Relief Committee, and to escape in the darkness.

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singing of lusty young voices in joyous retreat.

"Deep in the hearts of men, Faith in the Scarlet of Avalon." He had lost his faith now, and there was no regaining it.

Johnston looked at the pistol and was tempted to toss it aside. He could still catch the freight train out of town and somehow, make his way to California as he had originally intended to do.

He secured a job, finally, as driver of a delivery wagon. His salary was nineteen dollars a week, and with it he provided himself with food, shelter, and clothing.

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GAME'S OVER



"Why was Tom's engagement to Helen broken?" "She broke him."

STILL ANOTHER ONE



Mr. Jones (angrily)—I was the biggest fool in the world when I asked you to marry me! Mrs. Jones (dangerously sweet)—Not the biggest, dearest, I accepted you!

WILLING TO WAIT



Jogging Pete—Say, mums, can ye gimme a job diggin' later? Farmer's Wife—Land sake! We don't dig later for another month yet. Jogging Pete—That's all right, mums, I'll live here till diggin' time.

LEAVE IT TO 'EM



"Did you tell your wife everything you did while she was away?" "No, the neighbors attended to that."

NO JOKING



"I took them to be a theatrical couple." "Did they wear uppers?" "No; but they certainly had plenty of them."

NOT SO BAD



Crane—Well, what the...? Ostrich—Just a little bit of injury to keep a cold in the head from setting down on the chest.

THE PROOF



Mrs. Hen—Alas, some of my poor children are in there.

DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL FARM Weekly News Letter

Work with Flax at the Central Farm Work with flax, at the Central Experimental Farm, has consisted chiefly in testing importations from other countries and in attempts to develop still better yielding varieties by artificial crossing.

Swede Roots for Seed Swede roots for seed may be stored either in outside pits or in a dark well ventilated cellar, free from frost, yet sufficiently cool to keep them from sprouting too early in the spring.

BRITAIN'S OLDEST WINDMILL During the past year a number of old windmills in Britain have engaged the attention of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

CANT FOOL HIM A boy from the town was passing through a hayfield with a country friend. "What are those funny things?" asked the town boy, pointing to haystacks.

Keep on the SUNNY SIDE



Have you noticed that your happiest hours occur on days when you feel your best? Have more of these happy days. You and all your family. Guard health while you live it. Keep on the sunny side of life.

Acton Fall Fair September 17-18, 1935 Special Prize List

- 15 Best High Stepping Horse in harness, 1st, \$3.00; 2nd, \$2.00 \$5 00
25 Best Single Turnout, 1st, \$3.00; 2nd, \$2.00 5 00
33 Best Span High Steppers in harness, by Robert Simpson Co., Old English Reproduction Silver Plated Comport, value 0 00
45 Best Span Heavy Draught, by the Pioneer Equipment Company, goods to the value of \$5.00, or off a larger purchase 5 00
55 Best Lady Rider, 1st, \$3.00 cash; 2nd, by Acker Furniture Co., cushion, value \$2.50 5 50
65 Best Lady Driver, by Acton Creamery, 1st, \$3.00; 2nd, \$2.00 5 00
75 Best Span of Agricultural, owned in the Township of Equus-ling, by Gibson Manufacturing Co., ploughshares to value of 6 00
85 Best Spring Colt, bred by Prince of Ferndale, 1st, \$5.00; 2nd, \$3.00; 3rd, \$2.00, to be deducted off 1936. Donated by J. C. Gillies 10 00
95 Best Colt, two years and under, bred by Brilliant, 1st, \$5.00; 2nd, \$3.00; 3rd, \$2.00, to be deducted off 1936. Donated by Wm. Brennan 10 00
105 Best Saddle Horse, suitable for hunter, 1st, \$3.00; 2nd, \$2.00 5 00
115 Best Quick Hitch, to saddle and to ride around track one, then hitch and drive around track once, no man to be used. 1st, \$5.00; 2nd, \$3.00; 3rd, by Ritchie & Aggar, 3 gallons of oil, value \$3.50 10 50
All Riders and Drivers must have Family Membership Ticket