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meaning to answer it but trying to fix up my affairs so's I and Terry could come up to your city. Yesterday I was to Mrs. Reddicks and she said she had a tellagram for you but had no adress and so could not forward it. It said your mother was so worrit not having had no anser to her letters she was coming out on the first train and would reache Palm Springs day after tomorrow. Hopping to see you soon ether there or here, Mrs. P. Dack. P. S. Both I and Terry send you lots of love.

Mem was petrified. Nothing could stop her mother from coming. The first blaze of joy at the thought of the reunion was quenched in the flood of impossible situations her presence would create!

Old Steddon had raised a family and been habited to a mother's slumber, light and broken with frequent dashes to bedsides troubled by bad dreams or imagined burglars or mere thirst or a cough. If her hasty feet found both her slippers or one or neither, she hastened as she was. She would not have paused for a wolf, an Indian, a murderer, a fire or an earthquake.

Mem was still her baby in the dark, and it did not matter whether she lay needful and terrified in the next room or beyond the deserts or the seven seas. The mother's one business was to get to her. Her telegram was her old night cry; "I'm coming, honey. Don't worry. Mamma's coming to her baby." She shot this cry across the continent and called Mem "baby," although Mem felt as old as night.

When Remember learned that her mother was already on the train, she could devise no plan for turning her back. Somehow she had to be met and provided for.

Every one of the women of Mem's Hollywood household was out of work. She who had savings was lending them to her who had not.

And now her mother!  
 With a few dollars from Leva's waning resources Mem took the train to Palm Springs.

With Mrs. Dack and her boy she stood on the platform of the little desert town waiting for the up train, and when Mrs. Steddon dropped off the steps Mem put her right back on again!

Mrs. Steddon had been prepared to find a scared and sickly child in a shack in Palm Springs. She had come as a rescuing angel. She found that her wings and halo were old-fashioned!

When they reached Los Angeles they left Mrs. Dack and Terry at the home of a cousin, then sped on to the bungalow, where Leva made Mrs. Steddon welcome.

And now Mem recalled Mrs. Sturges and her statement (so glibly did she substitute faith facts) that "every one of them has to pay the Price!"

Mem grew grim as she meditated. "The Price"—it was only a vague phrase. But she was ready to pay it, whatever it was! The question was, to whom?

She brooded a long while before she thought of a shop to visit. She smiled sardonically as she remembered The Woman's Exchange at home where women sold what they made — painted china, hammered brass, knit goods, cakes and candies.

(Continued Next Week)

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