"He was - yes."

the house."

a question of money - or snould we

call it the price of a woman's honour?"

his back-and his face was grim.

There was a tragic silence. Chit-

"Perhaps you would like me to ex-

sufficient if I just call you the cad and

the blackguard which I know you to

"I can only conclude that you are

Chittenham caught his upraised arm

given him a thrashing I'm in your

He released Schofield's arm, at the

ly, then Schofield broke down. He

know what Lombard has told you-ne

and when he found it was no use he

threatened to go to you. Good God,

"What reason have I to disbelieve

Schofield rose to his feet and began

every detail of the story-that you

He said that you mistook Julie for

punishing her for the way she treated

your brother-he said that when you

came back from St. Bernard you boas-

"By God- you dare say that to me

man you're supposed to care for!

Chittenham dragged him to the door

He released Schofield so violently

that he almost fell. He waited a mo-

ment-then went back into the library,

He was shaking from head to foot

that's all I've got to say to you-"

Giles shrugged his shoulders.

row the best of all reasons?"

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FOURTEENTH INSTALLMEN'I

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE

Giles Chittenham sets out to make Julie Farrow love him, intending to suicide of his brother Rodney, whom Julie had cast off. He succeeds, but finds that he has fallen desperately in love with her himself. Then he discovers that it was not this Julie Farrow, but her cousin of the same name, who had driven his brother to death. But Giles is married, to an American girl named Sadie Barrow, Thornhill, Ont. with whom he has not lived for a long time. Sadie unexpectedly turns up in London, at a party at Giles' mother's house, but both keep silent about their marriage.

Julie, disillusioned, enters into the wild night life of London to try to drown her anguish. Lawrence Scho- body cares for me. Though I can't who had first introduced her to Chit- arm that you're just trying to be kind, being so, the kindest thing I can do is with the threat that if he is not paid and want to get away-" he will tell Schofield that Chittenham | "Don't leave me alone, Giles. You | He took a step towards the bell, but and Julie spent the night together on don't know what it's like to be left Schofield was too quick for him the St. Bernard Pass. Later Julie con- alone in this hideous darkness. I shall "That won't do," he said thickly. fesses to Chittenham that she loves go mad if you leave me. I've often "I've seen that trick tried before. I'm

mother's house Sadie Barrow, his wife try and be nice to them, but I know I am, Chittenham, but I spoilt Lomsuddenly goes blind. She calls to what it's like now, and I wish I'd been bard's beauty for him last night-he him and he responds, revealing the kinder. I suppose it's my punish- won't show his face amongst decent fact that she is his wife. Julie, who ment-and yet why should I be pun-people again for some time to come, has sent Schofield away because of ished? I've never done any one any and I'll spoil yours if I-" her love for Chittenham, goes home harm-" in despair. Chittenham follows her, "My dear, I want to be kind to you, and held it in a grip of steel. to Schofield's hotel. He is out, but Sadie broke pitifully: she leaves a note for him.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY He took her to a desk and gave her paper and a pen.

Julie wrote a few hurried lines.

ring me in the morning.-Julie." It was a relief to have written that,

how unnecessary it was to have added their trembling. time, and then in the morning they I?" would go away and make some sort of Giles explained as gently as he another's throats like wild beasts. happiness together.

Julie tried hard not to think be- "In the morning I will take you a- tried his blackmailing games on me yond to-morrow, but although she was way." so tired, and felt ready to drop, she could not sleep. She lay awake for Where will you take me? To live Schofield, what sort of a fool are you hours listening to every sound.

off to sleep, only waking when she I have arranged with a specialist to heard the maid let herself into the see you-" flat and move about in the kitchen ! She interrupted again: lighting the fire.

Presently she brought tea and a finished." note. "It was lying on the mat when

I came in Miss." Julie glanced at the handwriting, "Well, go on-and afterwards? "Lombard was so sure-he had got

then sat up, her pulses jerking. It What then?" was from Lawrence Schofield. She "Then we must see. We must make and Julie spent the night together at was conscious of a warm glow of arrangements."

be happy about in a world that held for the rest of my life?" Her ter- uations are given the same vile interno real happiness. He must have rible, hysterical sobbing began afresh. pretation as you have given to this-" brought it himself late last night | Chittenham felt that he could bear | Schofield's face-flamed suddenly Perhaps, after all, it had been his foot no more. He called to the nurse and crimson.

step out side which she had heard. | made his escape. His nerves were | "But I believe it!" he shouted. "I've She broke open the seal, the en- shaking as he went downstairs. He always known that Julie was unhappy. velope felt unusually bulky, she drew had never imagined anything so tragic She has hinted at trouble again and out its contents-her own note which as this last half hour.

minute pieces. That was all. When Giles Chittenham got back all the night to drag through.

the hall. "Your wife has been asking for you could he possibly leave her? all the evening. I said I would send It would be inhuman, impossible, her cousin-he said that you intended you up as soon as you came in."

As he went upstairs he could hear Sadie's voice, high-pitched and hysterical, and he stopped for a moment, his hand clutching the stair rail, a

fate gripping his heart. Supposing something happened to she turned her head towards the door, all night. The gentleman is Mr. ing him-What provision have you and stared at him with her wild, blind Schofield, sir."

"So you've come at last, have you?" to Chittenham's drawn face. coming in? Accident Insurance re- she shrilled at him. "I suppose you've Schofield. the man whom Julie had foul lies that come to you about a wolieves financial and physical suffering no use for me either, now I can't see." said she would marry. She beat her hands frantically on the brass rail, and the nurse who had a stride.

> held them. Sadie burst into wild sobbing.

that I shall never see again as long as knew nothing of his relations with gentleman out, and if he refuses to go I live. I shall just sit here in the Julie-and when he did not immedi-send for the police." darkness till I die-till I die-and no- ately reply, he broke out again bedy cares it doesn't matter to any hoarsely. one in all the world what becomes of

Giles crossed the room and touched 'wrong'," Schofield answered slowly. her shoulder. "Sadie-"

She checked her sobbing with a ful honour of a visit from a man namsharp breath, and raised her face with ed Lombard. I have met him bepathetic eagerness to hear what he fore - usually, I believe, in your comthe nurse's grasp, and groped in front that he is a friend of yours?" throw her over in revenge for the of her till she touched Chittenham's coat, then she clutched it feverishly and began sobbing once more.

> "Don't leave me, Giles-be kind to been a little upset between you-over me-after all, I am your wife-"

Chittenham looked at the nurse. "Please leave us."

When she had gone, he sat down | tenham's hands were clenched behind beside his wife and put an arm round

"Sadie-you must try and be brave plain, Mr. Chittenham," Schofield and listen to reason. Everything went on, and now every sneering word possible is being done and will be done was a studied insult, "or will it be you know that."

Sadie was sobbing again.

"You don't really care for me-no- be?" field wants to marry her. Lombard, see you I know by the feel of your drunk," said Giles, sharply, "and that tenham, demands money from Giles while all the time you're impatient to ring and have you shown out of

felt impatient with blind people-it's not drunk and you damn well know At a spiritualist seance at Giles' bored me to have to talk to them and I'm not. You're a younger man than

but she sends him away and decides but you make it so difficult for me-" | "Don't be a damned fool," he said she will accept Schofield. She goes There was a little silence, which roughly, "you're no match for me, and you know you're not. If you've got

"There! I'm not crying any more, anything to say, say it and be done. am I? I'm quite quiet now-please As far as Lombard goes, if you have

kiss me, Giles." He kissed her affectionately enough debt, I owe him one myself-"

his heart torn with pity. "You didn't kiss my lips," Sadie same time giving him a little push "I didn't mean it, Lawrence dear. I said-then she laughed brokenly, away from him, and for a moment the want you to come back to me. Please "Never mind! I suppose it's all I de- two men glared at one another silent-

She took her hands away from him groped towards a chair and fell into and she half smiled as she thought and folded them in her lap to hide it, hiding his face against his clenched hands. Giles watched him for a mo-

those last words. He would not ring | "Well-" she said after a moment ment without speaking, then he fetchher, he would come round, she was as he did not speak. "What am I go-led whisky and soda from a side table. sure, he would come very early, per- ing to do? Or what are you going to "Help yourself," he said. "If you've haps even to-night if he was back in do with me? I can't stay here, can got anything against me, let's talk i lout sensibly, instead of flying at one

could.

She interrupted quickly:

with you?"

to believe a lying hound like that?" In the early morning Julie dozed "Not at once. To a nursing home. Schofield raised his haggard face. it?" he asked sullenly.

"It will be of no use. I know. I'm | "Isn't your knowledge of Miss Far-

"Don't say that, Sadie." She shuddered from head to foot. I pacing up and down.

the St. Bernard Hostel-" "Arrangements! for what? For me | "So we did. It was impossible to He loved her-it was something to to be led about by a nurse or a dog get home. If all such unforeseen sit-

again. The reckless way she talksshe had written last night in the hotel! He paced up and down the library all that pretended gaiety. It's never lounge, torn across and across into at his wit's end to know what to do. really deceived me, though for her It was long past eleven and he had sake I've let her think it has-Lombard had the whole story pat. He

to his mother's house she met him in If there was indeed no hope of Sadie even spoke of your brother's relations ever being able to see again, how with Julie's cousin-and of his suicide.

and yet to live with her-Another knock at the door. Chittenham turned impatiently.

ted to him of the easy conquest you "Oh, come in, come in." I had made-" "A gentleman to see you, Sir. terrible sense of loss and irrevocable said you were very much engaged and He never finished his sentence-for could see no one, but he insisted, Sir, Chittenham's hands were at his throat, When she heard Chittenham's voice, and says he will wait if he has to wait shaking him like a rat, almost chok-

> "Schofield!" The colour rushed -you talk of Lombard! how much better are you? Believing the first

Chittenham was across the room in You're not worth a thrashing-get out

been standing beside her, caught and "Is there anything the matter-Miss Still keeping one hand on Schofield, Farrow-"

In his desperate anxiety Giles for- and flung it open-shouting to one of "There's no hope for me, I know got that this man in all probability the servants: "James, show this

"If anything is wrong-"

"That all depends what you mean by shutting the door behind him. "Yesterday evening I had the doubt- with uncontrollable passion, and his

face and head were burning. That any man should dare to accuse him of such a thing-and to Julie of all people—the woman he adored!...

And again Chittenham lost himself in the thought of that night on St. Bernard-when they had been shut in on all sides by storm and snow and tempest and he had held Julie in his arms.

In a revulsion of feeling he wished passionately that he had made true the almost unspeakable accusation which HEATERS & FURNACETTES had to say. She tore her hands from pany. I think I am right in assuming Schofield had brought against him.

Julie would have been his then for ever-body and soul, and nothing could "Yes," he said, still in that level, ever have altered it. unnatural voice-"I believe there has

(Continued Next Week)

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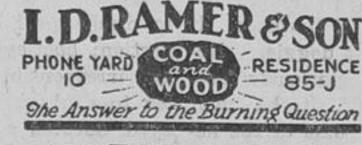
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