



THE SILK ENIGMA

BY J. R. WILMOT

AUTHOR OF 'ZORA, THE INVISIBLE,' 'DEATH IN THE STALLS,' etc.

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CHAPTER XVI IN SEARCH OF YOUTH

Sen Yat Soh smiled. It was a tolerant smile; the kind of smile an adult sometimes has for a child that is always asking what are considered to be absurd questions.

You, as I have said, are an attractive woman still, but what would you not give to have ten of those years taken from your shoulders; what possibilities would not the world hold for you. Ah, dear lady, I see that at last I have aroused your interest.

FOOLED BY A WOMAN Sen Yat Soh was not accustomed to women interrogating him, but he realized that he would have to be tolerant.

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my remarks by saying that I was willing to purchase that silk from you. All you have to do, dear lady, is to name the price and I—Sen Yat Soh, a gentleman of substance and prestige in China—will honour my word.

Sen Yat Soh had risen to his feet. His face had assumed the aspect of a fierce mask. 'You fool,' he hissed, between lips that scarcely moved.

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