

# Grey Roses

by PETER BENEDICT

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AUSTIN HART: Strange but devoted rose-grower who evolves a grey bloom.  
 THEA HART: His beautiful young wife of whom he is madly jealous and after whom the rose is named.  
 JIM FOLEY: Writer and flower-lover who discovers the Harts.  
 DR. MAURICE WAYLAND: Austin Hart's doctor, a strange and dominating man.  
 CHARLES SIEVIER: A young, temperamental but gifted artist.  
 JANE SIEVIER: His sister who helps him in his work.

## CHAPTER XII "FIGHT IT OUT"

All the patience of which Jane was capable, all her subtlety, all her ingenuity, all her subtlety, all her ingenuity which followed, Hughie's trouble was smoothed and soothed away from his mind gradually, so that he grew cheerful again. Only when she questioned him did he shrink back, and sometimes cry fitfully.

"I can't go on doing it," she said in despair. "His mother knows what we're doing. She's tried to help me. But it's cruel. Oh, Jim, I can't bear to keep pushing him back to it. I've tried to be so gentle about it, but it doesn't make any difference."

"No matter," said Jim. "Hughie will get over it. But unless we go right ahead it's very doubtful if Charles ever will. Perhaps there could be some other approach. If we showed him something he recognized there would be a reaction. Let's take him to see Charles. It's a negative experiment, because we're sure Charles had nothing to do with it; but there might be a certain amount of evidence in his attitude. If he even saw Charles in the garden he'd be sure to manifest some sort of fear or horror."

"But it's all so blind," she said helplessly, "such a business of groping in the dark. I know it was my idea at the beginning—and I still believe in it, too—that the fright he had was from witnessing the—killing."

With Charles remanded in custody, she could never bring her tongue to say the word murder. "But there's nothing to prove it—nothing at all. We're just not sure of anything. Oh, Jim, what are we going to do?"

"Brief a good man, if necessary, and fight it out. But I still think something could be made of Hughie."

"All right," said Jane listlessly. "If you can arrange it we'll bring Charles to him."

And Hughie, by a little compassionate diplomacy, was taken to see Charles. It was a pleasure Charles had not been expecting, and he knew nothing of its significance; but his silliness had changed by this time into an apathetic misery which left him some room for gentleness but none for clear thought; so, after the first bewildered and morose wondering for what they could hope from the idiot boy, he allowed himself to fall in with their plans without curiosity, and was abstractedly kind to Hughie.

"Hallo, Hughie," he said, with the ghost of a smile. "How's the hay coming along?" No one in Austin Paul could compete with his cutting and reaping without Hughie's supervision.

Hughie approached him without any hint of fear, his eyes calm, his lips placidly smiling. Charles had a carnation in his buttonhole, a red one which Jane had brought him two days before, and this splash of bright and fragrant colour drew Hughie irresistibly. He put up his hand shyly, and touched it.

"Pretty," he said, in his child's voice. There was no fear there. The brightness of the flower could not have made him forget his terror if this man had been the murderer of Austin Hart. He could not have approached, much less touched, the author of his long fears. Charles was free of the very suggestion; but that dumb evidence was useless in police court unless supported by other witnesses. It was good to have that last lingering doubt settled and laid to rest for ever from their minds; but, for all that, they had far to go.

**MYSTERY OF GREY ROSES**  
 "Yes," said Charles, looking down at

his lapel with a wry smile. "It is pretty, isn't it? But it's fading rather. I've got something here you'd like better than that." He turned abruptly, and went and plucked a sheaf of roses from a jar in the corner of the cell. The gesture with which he dragged them from the water was almost savage, certainly without respect of their beauty. He brought them, and thrust them into Hughie's hand. "There, you can have them if you like. They're lovely, aren't they? I don't want them—take them away with you."

Jane's steady stare drew his eyes. He said sharply: "What's the matter? Did you want them?"

She shook her head. The roses had not yet changed hands. Charles stood holding them out before him in a distasteful way, but frowning so blackly that Hughie, though his eyes shone with desire, hesitated to take the flowers from him.

"Did she—did Mrs. Hart bring them?" asked Jane.

"Mrs. Hart sent them—by the gardener's boy. Did you think she would really come near me herself?"

"And you promptly give them away?"

"I don't want her gestures of pity. Why should I? She should come in person if she has anything to say, and keep herself and her possessions where they belong if she hasn't. Here you are, Hughie. Take them away and put them in water and they'll last for ever so many days."

Jane shrugged her shoulders. If one's brother chose to become bitter because Mrs. Hart was human enough to wonder if he had killed her husband, there was nothing one could do about it.

But her eyes were miserable, for she was in the unhappy position of feeling sympathy with both of them, and the mere fact that Thea had been moved to the foolish and impractical gesture of sending roses made Jane's heart warm to her. If she did not believe in Charles's innocence, at least she had a soft spot for him.

It hurt Jane that he should hand on Thea's gifts so spitefully to a stranger. She turned away, her lip trembling.

Hughie took the bunch of roses in his two hands, and bent his face to them eagerly, turning them as one turns a jewel to capture every facet of a changeable beauty. And at the first turn he came upon three large Thea Van-hornighs, half-open blossoms carefully chosen to last for as long as possible. He gave a sort of small animal gasp in his throat, and drew his hands from the flowers as if they burnt his flesh.

The roses fell and scattered upon the floor, and Hughie shrank against Jane's side, Jane, turning, saw what had happened, and seized Jim's arm in an access of excitement.

"What on earth!" said Charles, blankly staring. "What's the matter with the child? I thought he liked them. They don't bite, Hughie. Take 'em away now, like a sensible boy. You're fond of roses, aren't you?"

Hughie shook his head, retreated upon Jim, clinging to him, whispering: "Don't want them," he said, painfully, panting. "Don't like those—don't like—take them away! All bad—Hughie's frightened—!" He began to sob, but his eyes were dry and wide.

Jane came to him and put her arms round him. She was trembling with excitement as acutely as he with distress, and if she shed no tears, Jane's eyes were not dry.

"It's all right," she said coaxingly. "They're pretty, Hughie. Look, these grey ones—see how lovely! You know them don't you? There's nothing wrong

with them. They can't hurt you, Hughie. You've seen them before, you know—in Mr. Hart's garden. You've seen them many a time."

Charles stood staring in a dull, bewildered way for a moment. Then he stooped slowly, and gathered up the roses; and stood assembling them in his hand. He asked dubiously: "What's the matter with them? I don't see—"

But Hughie slung and shivered and shrank into himself before their eyes, his teeth clenched in a frightening way against the involuntary admission of things he wanted only to forget. When Jane persisted, tears starting in her eyes from the sheer effort at restraint, he began to weep distressfully. Jim put his hand upon her shoulder and drew her gently aside.

"Leave him alone, Jane—it's no use. You're only frightening him. He won't tell—he's determined not to."

"He must!" said Jane, in sudden anger. "He's got to. You see, he does know—you can see for yourself he knows what happened among those roses. Do you think I'm going to let them say it was Charles when he knows very well it wasn't Charles? He's got to tell!"

Charles made an abortive movement to go to her, but stopped at once, and stood looking morosely at the discarded roses. Faintly grotesque in his glooming over an inappropriate bouquet, and more than faintly tragic, he was resolved in his misery to leave Jane to her own consolation. It was Jim who hushed her gently and rallying back into a reasonable humour.

"Hush, Jane! There are more ways than one of setting about things. You're only doing him harm now, and doing us no good. No need to labour it. I've got a better idea."

"I'm sorry," said Jane, taking a tight hold upon herself. She turned to Hughie, who had wept himself into a state of amorphous despair. "All right, Hughie, we'll take you home. Never mind the roses, then, let's leave them here, shall we? We'll get you some nicer ones somewhere else. Come along, yet's go shall we?"

She gave him a shell-handled nail file out of her handbag, and he prised it between Hughie's clenched teeth. They gave quite easily to the touch, a fact which appeared to occasion Jim considerable astonishment and even more satisfaction. And as he held him fast, ignoring the way the boy beat at him and clawed, Jim seemed to be seeing through mysteries. A light of triumph came into his eyes.

He thrust the file back hurriedly at Jane, and drew Hughie more firmly into his arms. The paroxysm was passing. The possessed boy shed his demon suddenly, and Hughie fell limp in Jim's hold, less than half-conscious, his face smeared with foam, his hands and one cheek scratched by thorns.

Neither of them, in the stress of the moment, had given a thought to anyone or anything outside the immediate scene. Now they started round hurriedly as an authoritative voice demanded behind them:

"What in heaven's name is going on here?"

Thea Hart and Dr. Wayland were standing wide-eyed at the end of the clipped hedge, staring down at them. Jim rose to his feet.

"But this is very a propos," he said coolly. "Dr. Wayland, you come pat upon your cue."  
 (To be Continued)

place where the bushes were trampled and broken still from the death struggle of Austin Hart.

The full significance of the scene seemed to seize upon Hughie's mind suddenly. Life came back to his face, a horrible life, haunted and dreadfully intelligent; the flesh shrank and whitened like wax upon his bones, and his mouth fell open, his chin shaking in a paroxysm of terror.

Jane put her hands to her face and stood back from him, watching intently as he stared round the garden remembering and re-envisioning the scene which had been enacted there. Then all the muscles of his face seemed to contort in one wild nervous spasm; he gave a scream which made Jane cry out in alarm after him; and, pitching forward upon his face into the bushes and jagged stones, began to thrash the ground horribly with his thin arms and legs and batter his head and face into the soil.

Jane screamed again. It was too sudden and too overwhelming; her mind could not face it. She said: "Oh, Jim—oh, Jim!" in a foolish way, and began to cry helplessly. "Oh, Jim, what have we done!"

Jim had plunged upon the heaving, twisting figure in a moment and raised it in his arms, struggling to disjoin the flying hands. One of Hughie's fists caught him full in the mouth, and the nails drew three crimson streaks down his chin. He kept his hold, and lifted the boy clear of the ground and held him from among the thorns.

"Jane!" he said sharply. "Help me!—take hold of his wrist, and help me to hoist him!" And as she hesitated in a horror of touching him: "Come on. Do as I tell you."

She caught him at the small flailing wrist, and prised it; and Jim, plunging beneath the taut arm, lifted Hughie by the thighs and bore him screaming out of the heaving roses to kneel with him upon the grass.

"A pencil—quickly—!" He held one hand back to her impatiently. "Fountain pen, then—anything thin and hard—"

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 (To be Continued)

## Twenty Years Ago

From the Porcupine Advance Files

At the annual meeting of the Timmings board of trade twenty years ago T. F. King was elected president with the understanding that he select his own council. The other officers elected were:—D. Ostracher, vice-president; W. S. MacPherson, secretary-treasurer.

The annual report showed that much work had been done for the advantage of Timmings in 1922. Among other matters mentioned was the lead given by the Timmings board of trade for the annexation of Mattagami to the town. The board had secured the necessary change in the town by-law to make Thursday the half holiday for the summer, instead of Wednesday. The board had done much in efforts to secure better roads and more of them for the settlers in the district. Effort had also been made to secure proper dock facilities at Comaught and at Mattagami river. Request had been made to the Ontario Dept. of Mines for a geological survey of the Porcupine. The resuming of the "summer service" on the T. & N. O. had been urged very strongly on the Commission by the board of trade. In the circulation of the petition for paving of Pine street, the board of trade had also taken a leading part. Reference was made in the report to the pleasant trip of the Night Hawk Lake area as guests of Dan O'Connor. The visits here of the Toronto and Montreal boards of trade, the Toronto brokers, the Legislative Committee investigating the hotel service, etc., were mentioned, the board of trade receiving and welcoming these bodies. The helpful part taken by the board of trade in having the bush menace cleared away from the town was another of the good deeds of the board during 1922. There was mention in the report of the large amount of correspondence handled during the year by the secretary.

Twenty years ago the Northern Ontario Association Boards of Trade met at South Porcupine, with President D. L. Jewett, of Cobalt, in the chair. The matters of fire-rangings, elevators to be built along the T. & N. O., better mail service for the North, freight rates, immigration and settlement, the price of wood fuel, a House of Refuge for Temiskaming, and other questions came up for lively discussion and consideration. F. M. Wallingford arrested the attention of the gathering when he pointed out that it cost \$50.00 to send a car of lumber from Mattagami to the Dome siding, less than six miles. The Assoc-

ated Boards asked that all district chief fire-rangers be employed by the Government all the year round and that the powers of these officials be extended to give them the necessary authority to be of real service.

Timmings hockey team won a game here in the N.O.H.A. series twenty years ago, defeating the Falls 6 to 4. Andy Kyle, of Toronto, handled the game very effectively, and it was good hockey. Frank McGuire, Don Campbell, Behan and Fournier and others on the Timmings team came in for special mention. McGuire and Fournier scored two goals each, while Campbell and Behan scored one each. The line-up for Timmings included:—Scully, Fournier, Carlin, Campbell, Cameron, Behan, Reis and McGuire. For Iroquois Falls:—Corbould, Brydge, Fluker, Boucher, Fahey, Lafrance, Chirooski and Quessell.

Twenty years ago the Schroeder orchestra gave a very pleasing programme in the New Empire theatre, under the auspices of the Navy League. The collection at the door amounted to over \$100. There was much praise for the Senior and Junior orchestras. The violin selections by the double trio of artists were also specially appreciated. A cornet solo by Carl Johns and a cornet duet by Messrs. O. Brown and L. Maltas were very popular numbers. "A promising young violinist, Master Harry Martin, with little Miss Esther Martin at the piano, delighted the audience with a cleverly-rendered selection," says The Advance report of the event.

"Burton Holland, who has on previous occasions appeared before the audiences here, added to his growing reputation as a young violinist of distinct promise." Ted Whaley's well-rendered violin solo won much applause. Piano selections by Miss Jeanne Larcher, little Lillian Robitaille, Miss Richardson, Miss Dorothy Porter, and Miss Ruth Johnston were all talented and attractive numbers.

There was much clean fast hockey in the Mines League series here twenty years ago. McIntyre won from Hollinger 3 to 1, in a very lively game. Brewer, Keeley, Briden, Kendall, Jones, Parker, Demers, Laprairie and Burns were the McIntyre delegates. Playing for the Hollinger were:—McIntyre, Fraser and Wylie, Ross, Kelly, Macdonald, Lapierre, Jacobs, and Boyd. It is easy to see why the game would be keenly contested, some of the players being good enough for the Senior team. In a fast and even game, with ten minutes overtime required to decide, Timmings won from the Dome, 2 to 1. The line-up suggests good hockey, and it was Timmings who played:—R. Hoggarth, Smith, White, Garrett, McCoy, Lilly, Lynch, Nelson, LaFlamme. For the Dome:—Lacroix, Knutson, Purdy, Travers, Croteau, Fell, Hovey, Ashe, and Mansfield.

Twenty years ago the Iroquois Falls Junior hockey team won the N.O.H.A. Junior championship of the group. The Timmings players included:—Downey, Campbell, Gorman, Portelance, Briden, Cameron, Desormeau, Johnson.

A two-year term in prison was netted out to a Timmings man twenty years ago for slashing his wife with an axe. This sort of case has been so rare in Timmings that it is news, even after twenty years.

Iroquois Falls ladies' hockey team won at Timmings twenty years ago in a nice game of hockey, the score being 3 to 1. The game was handled diplomatically by Dr. Behan.

An inquest into the death of a miner at the Dome at this time of year twenty years ago showed that the death had resulted clearly from the disregard of the safety rules.

Among the local and personal items in The Advance twenty years ago were the following:—"Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Auer leave to-morrow (Thursday) for a trip to the West Indies." "H. B. Child, of Matheson, was a visitor to Timmings this week." "R. W. Robbins and family have returned from a holiday visit to the South." "O. R. Smith of Sudbury, was a visitor to the camp last week, and was heartily welcomed by many old friends in the district." Fire Chief A. Borland and J. D. MacLean left to-day for New Liskeard to represent Timmings at the annual meeting of the Temiskaming Firemen's Association.

"Vincent Woodbury and family have returned from an extended holiday visit to the south and west, going by way of Vancouver, and spending some time at Mr. Woodbury's old home in Texas." "Jack Perry, who has been an employee of the engineering department at the Hollinger, left last week to take a position in a mine in Peru, South America. During his stay in town Mr. Perry made a host of friends, especially among the young people of the camp, and all will regret his leaving here while wishing him all the luck in the world in the far south."

**Social Evening Held by Ladies' Auxiliary of Legion**

The social evening held on Friday evening by members of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion, proved enjoyable to the very small attendance present. Other attractions and an epidemic of colds were responsible for the few in attendance. The ladies in charge, however, carried on and the evening was spent in dancing. A nice lunch was served and thoroughly enjoyed. Mrs. Bellamy, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Nicholson were in charge of the event. Les Nicholson acted as M.C. W. A. Devine provided the music.

**Two Births Registered Here During This Week**

Born—On Jan. 20th, 1943, to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Chester Jennings, 117 Pine north, at St. Mary's Hospital—a daughter (Francis Alice May Marilyn).

Born—On Jan. 9th, 1943, to Mr. and Mrs. John Victor Adams, 173 Pine north, at St. Mary's Hospital—a son (Blaine Joseph).

Sudbury Star—Italian senators, it's reported, are asking their king to stop the war, something like asking the flea to halt its Fido.

## Urge Special Care by Retailers of Special War Stamps

### Directions to All Selling Any Kind of Jewellery.

The local branch of the Department of National Revenue (Excise Division) calls attention to the need of retail merchants for the greatest care in following out the instructions and regulations especially in regard to the use of Special War Revenue Stamps and in the sale of all articles of jewellery. To assist the local retailers the following circular from the Dept. is given in full:—

**Re: Retail Purchase Tax**  
 The Honourable the Minister of National Revenue has been pleased to establish the following regulations, effective February 1, 1943, under authority of Section 99 of The Special War Revenue Act:

1. All retail merchants and other vendors of articles subject to the Retail Purchase Tax as provided by Sub-section 2 of Section 140 of The Special War Revenue Act are required to comply with the following instructions:

In placing the stamps on the daily statement, care must be exercised to assure that they are not overlapped and that each stamp remains in full view for checking purposes.

In all cases in which a refund of the tax is made, receipt therefor must be obtained from the customer, in accordance with the provisions of Circular 857-C Revised.

2. It is further required that all jewellers who sell by retail, and jewellery departments of departmental stores, comply with the following:

(a) An invoice or counter sales check must be given each customer, duplicate thereof to be retained by the vendor, in respect of every sale, whether such sale represents merchandise to which the tax applies, or tax-exempt merchandise or services, whether the sale be made on a cash or charge basis.

(b) The invoice or counter sales check must indicate the description of the merchandise or service represented, the sale price without tax, and the amount of the tax.

(c) Invoices or counter sales checks and invoice or counter sales books must be consecutively numbered, and all duplicate invoices and sales checks retained for inspection by an auditor of the Department when invoices or sales checks are spoiled or cancelled, the original and all copies must be retained in proper sequence in the invoice or counter sales book.

(d) Invoices or counter sales check must be summarized daily, the summary to include all sales, taxable, nontaxable and the tax applicable to the former. Taxable sales and the tax thereon must be listed as individual items.

(e) The requisite stamps must be affixed to the summary daily and cancelled.

(f) If a cash register is in use, with sales recorded on a daily tape, the tapes in addition to duplicates of invoices or counter sales checks, must be retained for examination by the auditor.

3. Sub-section two of Section 140 of The Special War Revenue Act provides that whenever the undermentioned goods are delivered to the consumer or user, the retail merchant or other vendor shall be required to collect and pay to the Crown a retail purchase tax of 25% computed on the sale price.

**If Sale Price in excess of \$1.00**  
 (a) Clocks and watches adapted to household or personal use.  
 (b) Articles of all kinds made in whole or in part of ivory, jet, amber, coral, mother-of-pearl, natural shells, tortoise shell, jade, onyx, lapis lazuli, or other semi-precious stones.

**If Sale Price in excess of 50c**  
 (c) Articles commonly or commercially known as jewellery, whether real or imitation, including diamonds and other precious or semi-precious stones

## Death at Sudbury Last Week of Michael Burke

### Sudbury, Feb. 3.—An aged resident of Sudbury and district for many years, the late Michael Burke, who died Monday afternoon in St. Joseph's Hospital as he result of a fall at his home, at 363 Antwerp St., was buried Thursday morning. Requiem high mass was sung by Mrs. S. Legree in the Church of the Holy Trinity at 10 o'clock. Rev. Father J. S. Nietuski officiated, with Rev. Father F. Blais as deacon, and Rev. Father M. Skillen as sub-deacon. During the offertory, Mrs. Legree sang "Jesu Salvator Mundi." Burial took place at Biazard Valley, where the late Mr. Burke lived for a number of years. Rev. Father Nietuski and Rev. Father Skillen said prayers at the graveside. Pallbearers were Tony Kutchaw, Simon Kutchaw, Napoleon Belcourt, J. Smagage, A. Legault and Tony Binsky. Well known in this district, the late Mr. Burke first came to Sudbury in 1883 when the railroad was being born in Poland in 1885, marrying the former Augustina Kutchaw there in 1880. Mrs. Bourke predeceased him in 1931. Surviving the late Mr. Burke are three sons, Michael and Peter, of Timmings, and Stanley of Nobel; and three daughters, Sister Mary Benignon, of Parry Sound, Mrs. Andrew Gravelle, of Sudbury, and Mrs. W. Peacock, of Espanola.

## North Land Man of 84 Worked on Alaska Highway

Samuel Vosburgh, 84 years old, recently returned to his home in New Liskeard, after spending some time working as a carpenter in connection with the construction of the Alaskan Highway. He is a native of New York State, but has lived in Canada since he was a young man. In 1914 he took up farming in Harley township, having previously been a carpenter by trade. Since the war he has returned to work, and was employed by the town of New-Liskeard on work there, before going to Alaska. Mr. Vosburgh travelled by rail as far as terminus, Dawson Creek, after which he had a trip of 450 miles by truck. To take such a trip and then be able to hold up his end in work as a carpenter looks like a record for a man of 84 years.

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4. Where doubt exists questions relative to the application of the tax should be referred for ruling to the Commissioner of Excise, Ottawa.



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