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THE DAUGHTER OF DAVID KERR

by Harry King Tootle

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SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER I-Gloria Kerr, a motherless girl who has spent most of her life at school, arrives at her father's home in Belmont. David Kerr is the political boss of the town and is anxious to prevent his daughter learning of his real character.

CHAPTER II-Kendall, representing the Chicago packers, is negotiating with Judge Gilbert, Kerr's chief adviser, for a valuable franchise. They fear the oppo-sition of Joe Wright, editor of the reform

CHAPTER III-Kerr asks the assistance of Judge Gilbert in introducing Gloria to Belmont society and promises to help him put through the packers' franchise and let him have all the graft.

intimate terms, having met previously in a touring party in Europe. CHAPTER V-Gloria twits Wright on his failure to keep an engagement to meet her in Paris. He explains that the death of his mother prevented his going

CHAPTER VI-The Gilberts invite Gloria to stay with them pending the refurnishing of the Kerr home.

CHAPTER VII-One society bud who refused to meet Gloria is forced to do so when her father is made to feel Kerr's

fight against the proposed franchise in the columns of his paper, the Belmont CHAPTER IX - Kerr, through his

CHAPTER VIII-Wright begins his

henchmen, exerts every influence to hamper Wright in the publication of his pa-CHAPTER X-Gloria realizes she is not

being received by the best society and is unhappy. She takes up settlement work. CHAPTER XI-Kerr and his lieutenants decide to buy Kerr's paper and ask the

CHAPTER XII-Wright in his desire to keep from Gloria knowledge of her father's position, avoids her during the fight. Gloria is piqued.

editor to meet them at Gilbert's office.

office to solicit a donation Gloria meets Wright. He proposes and is accepted while waiting to be called into the con-

CHAPTER XIV-Wright refuses to sell his paper and declares he will fight to a

CHAPTER XV-The Belmont News appears with a bitter attack on Kerr. Gloria calls Wright a coward and refuses to listen to any explanation from him.

CHAPTER XVI-Broken-hearted, Gloria decides to plunge more deeply into settle-

CHAPTER XVII-She calls on a sick girl of the underworld named Ella.

CHAPTER XVIII-She learns for the first time that he father is the head of a

CHAPTER XIX-Sounds of a conflict are heard in the room over Ella's. Gloria attempted assassination by thugs in the pay of the political ring. She hides him in Ella's room and defles the thugs. CHAPTER XX-She awes them by an-

Ella threatens to give up Wright to the thugs and is choked into unconsciousness by Gloria, who then falls unconscious on Wright's body. CHAPTER XXI-They are rescued by Dr. Hayes and his wife. Wright is taken

nouncing that she is Kerr's daughter.

to a hospital and Gloria is taken to the Hayes home. Wright decides to sell his paper and leave Belmont.

CHAPTER XXII-Gloria hears that Wright is going away and calls upon him to ask his forgiveness for her harsh

CHAPTER XXIII-David Kerr calls on Wright and in Gloria's presence makes him a proposition to finance the News and have Wright succeed him as boss. The offer is spurned. Wright and Gloria decide to remain in Belmont and continue the fight to reform the city.

The girl was glad that at this moment Judge Gilbert came from his private office. Her father was questioning her about matters she preferred to keep to herself.

"If Miss Gloria can spare you, Mr. Kerr," said the judge, "Mr. Kendall would like to see you in my office. I've come back to be persuaded that I ought to join the cheerful givers."

"I'll tell Kendall, Gloria, that he's got to join the lodge," were Kerr's parting words as he went into the inner office.

Remembering that Miss Kerr had not been given the chance to explain her visit fully, Judge Gilbert took a chair beside her and said:

"Now, I'm at your service, prepared to believe the most terrible things

about our fair Belmont." "When you talk like that, Judge Gilbert, I'm afraid you're laughing at

Of late Gloria's seriousness had far outweighed her old mood of joyousness, and she now insisted on being

taken seriously. "You've lectured me so long for being shocked at what I've found that

I'm afraid to say any more." Judge Gilbert was seeking in his mind for some plausible reason to advance which would be sufficient to remove Gloria from the work she had

undertaken, when Williams entered. "I beg your pardon, sir," said the secretary, "but Mr. Wright is here."

"Mr. Wright," exclaimed Gloria. She almost rose from her seat, but feelin the eyes of the lawyer upon her, sand back again and tried to appear quit-

"Tell him I'll see him in a minute." "Yes, sir."

Williams went out, and left Glori: feeling as if she were on the stand, a witness in her own defense. She was provoked because she knew the attor ney had heard her exclamation. Some thing within her made her wish to rusi. away. But this wish in an instan: gave place to one more ardent. She ment steamers or war vessels may would see him, speak to him, learn the use their wireless without per- truth from his own lips if he were appear so ponderous as to require all

man enough to speak, and then go away forever. Deep down in her heart, however, she heard a whisper out of the leaves of their "birthday book," words he had whispered:

Spring in the hills, Beloved, On the side of a meadowed slope; And Love in our hearts, Beloved, Love and Spring and Hope.

CHAPTER XIII.

Wright had no means of knowing what it was Judge Gilbert had to propose to him, but he felt certain that it had some connection with his news-CHAPTER IV-Gloria meets Joe Wright | paper and with the campaign now endat the Gilberts. It appears they are on | ing in a lurid blaze of political pyrotechnics. Gloria Kerr was the last person he would have thought of meeting in Gilbert's office. He had promised himself that after the election, no matter whether it went his way or not, he would see her and make his excuses for not having had the time to be with her as he had wished. He would also begin to look about for a purchaser for the News. He hoped he would have no difficulty in getting Gloria to leave Belmont. Then for the new life with her where they could be ever together, one in heart and hope and happiness.

When Williams told Wright that Judge Gilbert was ready to see him, he opened the door and saw the lawyer advancing to meet him with extended hand. The adviser of Belmont corporations knew the value of a handshake and a cordial greeting. It made a visit to his office take on the air of a social affair.

"I'm so glad you came," he said to the editor, shaking hands heartily.

"I came as soon as I could." Wright CHAPTER XIII-Calling at Gilbert's was not going to be outdone, and therefore used his most genial tone, although the shaking hands on his side was a perfunctory performance. He knew Judge Gilbert's real attitude, and undue cordiality under the circumstances savored too much of the Greeks bearing gifts.

> "Miss Kerr and I have just been speaking of you."

"What!" exclaimed Wright. Looking past the judge, for the first time he saw Gloria. At mention of her name the girl rose from her chair. She really thought she merely wanted to speak to him, once more look into his eyes, and then take her departure.

At sight of her, Wright stepped forward and said, "How do you do, Miss Kerr? It's a great pleasure to see you. I certainly did not expect to find you here."

They shook hands in rather a constrained manner, Gilbert watching them closely the while. "Naturally not," she replied.

came to see Judge Gilbert on a matter of business and am just leaving." Despite herself she could not help adding, "My friends find me most of the time at Locust Lawn."

Something in her manner brought the lawyer at once into the conversation with a turning of the subject. "I couldn't tell you very well over

the 'phone what I wanted," he explained to Wright. "It'll be a little while before I can talk to you. need a few minutes more to ascertain fully the wishes of my clients." The conversation was so business-

like that Gloria forced herself to say "I must be going. Please don't let me keep you from your work."

But at this Gilbert held up his hand appealingly and begged, "Please don't go. I want you to do me a favor. Wait for Mrs. Hayes. Until I've finished this conference, won't you be so good as to act as hostess here and entertain Mr. Wright?"

"Really, Judge Gilbert, I-"

"I'm sure Mr. Wright wishes it." H interrupted her because he did no know what she might say, and he knew his remark would bring from the newspaper man a request that she re-"I wouldn't have Miss Wright make

a martyr of herself." Wright said with quiet dignity, "but if she would be so kind—"

"Didn't I tell you," the judge said to the girl. "Not a word. You must take my place until I return. If you'l pardon me, I'll be with you again in just a few minutes."

There was no time for them to protest. He slipped into the office where Kendall and Kerr were closeted, and closed the door quietly after him.

The situation was not without its embarrassment. Taking into consideration everything which had happened in the last month, there was little wonder that each felt constrained. In addition to that, Gloria felt as if she had just been figuratively thrown at

his head. To a high-spirited girl this in itself was mortifying. They sat without a word until the silence became painful. Wright was desperate. Here was the one woman in all the world, and he was afraid to open his mouth. At last he mustered sufficient courage to remark:

"Beautiful spring weather we're

having." This remark served only to punctu- ing: ate the silence. It seemed to him, from the length of time before she replied, that Gloria was mentally inspectfor the last twenty years.

that time to bring it forth.

This did not prove conducive to further conversation. He felt that the weather had not been exhausted by her voluble reply, however, and used it again.

"They tell me it's liable to be bad for another month." Again Gloria seemed to make a men-



tal survey of all the weather records: of the last twenty years. Wright had almost forgotten what he had said when she at last gave the conversation football a dainty kick by saying:

This time he was ready for her. His embarrassment was wearing off and he began again promptly:

"Don't the rains make the road pretty bad out your way?" "My friends manage to get out to

This was a chill rejoinder, and Wright felt he had lost several points

in their game of indirection. "Locust Lawn is quite a distance out," he ventured. "Not far enough to discourage my

friends." This goaded him to an apology. He regretted that she was not making it easy for him, but he forgave her because he knew she did not understand. "Because I've been so busy, please

don't think that I'm discouraged." "Why should I think of it at all?" she replied with spirit.

Her remark hurt him, both her words and her manner of speech. It tore away his reserve and made him burst forth in protest.

"That's not like you, Gloria. We've been such good friends." "We have been good friends," she admitted promptly. "Is there any

reason, Joe, why we should not be

His heart beat high within him at her words. They were so direct, so honest, so like the one woman of his dreams. It grieved him that he could not be as direct with her; but that was impossible, for over them was the sinister shadow of David Kerr, her

father, the boss of Belmont. "There's no reason why we shouldn't be good friends, Gloria. What put that idea into your head?"

"My circle of friends in Belmont seems to have grown smaller and

"Please don't put me on the out-"You seem to have put yourself |

The conversation lagged. There was so much to think about. Gloria was seeking to reconcile his explanations with her own observations. Looking at him closely she saw that he did not have that fresh, robust look which a month ago had made him seem fit for a gladiatorial contest. As he sat in the big office chair he seemed to relax with fatigue. His face was thinner, and there were little lines of worry about his eyes. Between his brows and on either side his mouth were to be seen creases which the girl thought proclaimed to the world his strength of character. A month ago she had not noticed them. She had felt he was such a man, but the wrinkles, confirming her belief, could almost be called a source of joy to her. They had made away with some of the youthfulness, but in his face she now saw something which more than compensated. It had greater strength now, strength such as was

written on her father's countenance. "You look tired." Her low, sympathetic tones and her solicitous look did what nothing else could do. They melted his stern purpose to bear it all in silence for yet a few days into a desire to take her as much as he dared into his confidence. With a woman's quick perception she would understand that he was unhappy. Her sympathy and her confidence in him would nerve him to fight the good fight as nothing else could and his heart was stirred by the possibility." "Yes," he admitted, "I'm tired and

sick at heart.' "Why don't you take a vacation? Go to Europe."

"I can't pick up and run away like that; but I'd do it anyway if it would bring back the dear old days." "The days I knew?" the girl made

bold to ask.

"The days you made so-delightful." "Can they be gone forever?" "You mean-" Wright did not dare to put his hope in words.

Carried farther than she had in-

"Who knows? We may meet in Paris again some day."

tended, Gloria beat a retreat by say-

"Some time soon, I hope. I'm sick ing the records of the weather bureau and tired of it all here, Gloria Today it has seemed like the game isn't "Yes," she said, a word that did not | worth the candle. What do you think?" "I'm all in the dark, too," was her

Continued on page ?

-Weak Heart -

Many people suffer from weak hearts. They may experience shortness of breath on exertion. pain over the heart, or dizzy feelings, oppressed breathing after meals or their eyes become blurred, the heart is not sufficiently strong to pump blood to the extremities, and they have cold hands and feet, or poor appetite because of weakened blood supply to the stomach. A heart tonic and alterative should be taken which has no bad after-effect. Such is

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