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By THEO. GIFT.

Capt. Glyn's voice is merry, but his eyes Their blue depths are looking into tender, anxious expression. Somehow I can't answer by reason of a flutter in my throat. Also my face has turned scarlet and all of a sudden it flashes on me that the rector's guest has no business to be walking with the rector's governess,

"I am going home now," I say, stopping abruptly. "So good-by for the present." "Good-by! and why? I am going home,

"No, you were going to the hall." "I have changed my mind; I like being with you bester.

"But I do not like it." "Again why?" don't" (rather

lamely). "Do I bore you so dreadfully then?" "No, not at all; but I don't think Mrs.

Peveril would be pleased." "Hang Mrs. Peveril! What could she say but that I am happier with you than with any one else, and would fain snatch every

I am hurrying on quickly now. He over-

takes, and puts his hand on my arm. "Miss Leslie," he says, "why age you so cruel? Am'I not unfortunate emough, that you grudge me even the few precious moments of your society which makes life bear-

"Unfortunated You!" "Yes; don't you know? Ah, Miss Leslie-Marion, let me call you so once-can't you pity me at least for my folly, if folly it is, in loving you, and"--

"Miss Leslie! Papa, I knewed it was Miss Leslie! Do stop!"

It is George's voice, and it comes through a break in the hedge under which we are walking. I look up with a start, and see, on the other side, Mr. Clifford with Dollie in his arms and George by the hand. Even in that moment of agitation I think how ill, how awfully ill and worn be is looking, somewhat as he did in that terrible time after Mrs. Clifford's death, more than a year ago; but though I try to say something-what l hardly know-in my confusion, he does not look at me; he looks at Capt. Glyn, and to him he says;

"I thought you had gone to the hall,

"Was on my way there, but met Miss Leslie hurrying home alone, and thought I had better see her safe to the gate. So many tramps about just now."

"Thank you. Now I have met you, however, I will take care of Miss Leslie myself. I hope she will never be in want of protection under my roof."

There is something stern, almost menacing in my master's tone; it makes me tremble instinctively. Capt. Glyn, who, of course, is not so foolish, merely helps me through the hedge (squeezing my hand at the same time, for which I should like to box his ears), lifts his hat and departs. trudge on at Mr. Clifford's side, and feel wofully inclined to cry. It is a miserable walk, and my master's grave, constrained efforts at talking make it worse. Once Dollie bursts out, "Lelly, does Cuthin Carr love oo welly"- but is peremptorily checked, and after that a terrible silence falls-a silence so terrible that it makes even this little coward desperate. As we near the porch, and Mr. Clifford gives Dollie over to her nurse, say hoarsely:

"May I speak to you, sir?"

For the first time he looks at me, a keen, searching look, half pain, half relief; then he says very gently:

"Assuredly you may. Come with me," and leads the way to the library. The sun is setting in a haze of golden fire behind the dusky, purpled line of woods on Birnam hills. A gentle breeze comes in at the open window, cooling my hot face, rumpling the papers on the writing table, and laden with sweet scents of faint, red clover and fresh cut hay. I, in my white dress and straw hat, am in the shadow; but my master's noble countenance and tall, bent figure are all gilded by one last ray of deep red gold. A bee is softly humming among the feathery sprays of clematis at the window; and far away I hear the general tinkle of a cattle bell among the river meadows. Says my master kindly: "Well, my dear?"

"If you please, may I go away for a little -home, I mean? I want to go." That is just how I blurt it out. I can do it no other way, my eyes are too full.

Mr. Clifford looks at me anxiously; but he only says: "Certainly you may. Do you mean at once!"

"Yes-that is, if-if you can spare me." A little while ago I would not have asked it; but how coolly he grants my request. After all, I am nothing to him or any one-

save this soldier boy. "We will spare you if you wish it," and then he makes a pause. Is this to be all? Not quite. As I move restlessly, uncertain whether to go or stay, he goes on:

"I do not like to ask questions, Miss Leslie; but as a friend who cares very heartily for your interest, do you mind telling me if you have any reason in especial for going away?" The kind, gentle tone! it breaks down all my armor at a breath, and I burst into a

flood of childish tears. "I am not behaving well; I am not pleasing you, or anybody, and I know it; and I ought to go away. I-I"-sobbing violently, with my face in my hands-"perhaps if you would take me back again afterwards I

should do better." A kind hand is laid on my shoulder, Not even this childish passion can irritate some

"My dear, pray don't cry in this way. You pain me. Has any one blamed you! I have

"You!" with my face lower still, bidden on my knees. "No, you are too good to blame any one; but you know it is true; and -and so do I; and-and besides"---

"Besides?" he repeats, his voice very grave. "There is another reason, then! My dear, you may be frank with me, indeed. Has it anything to do with Capt. Glyn?"

I make no answer; only every inch of my face and body seems to burn with shamed scarlet blushes.

"He admires you," said my master slowly, "and he has told you so. Yes, I knew that before this afternoon."

"But he never said so before; indeed, he did not," I cry, lifting a wet, crimson face for a moment. "I should have told you

"I am sure you would," he answers very kindly. "And now, will you tell me something more! Carr Glyn has said he loves you. Is his love returned?

"I-I-Oh! Mr. Clifford, please don't be "My child, it is not you I am angry with. It is natural you should care for him, a young, brave soldier, good looking and good tempered. It is natural, too, very naturalthat he should care for you; but he was very wrong to tell you so, or let you guess it. warned him when"-

My face is still lifted wonderingly. This is a new revelation, and how bitterly stern my master's voice has grown! "Ah! young folks think the elder ones are blind. I suppose caring for your bappiness so much made me extra quick to see when it was periled. My dear, don't look so pale. You shall be happy if I can aid you. Only

tel? me this: has Carr Glyn told you that he is already engaged?"

> "Has Carr Glyn told you that he is already engaged?"

"Engaged!" I repeat the words half dizzily, but something is bobbing up and down in my heart.

"Yes," he says very gently, "and for the last two years to Miss Gore-Langton. To keep that engagement now, when the love that prompted it is gone as utterly as it must have but remember, she cared for him, and"-

"He will care for her again," I break in. "He cares for her now really, I dare say. that is nothing; it will pass away when I am gone. Engaged! Oh! I am so glad, so glad. But to Miss Gore-Langton of all-Ah! what does it matter who it is, so I need not blame myself for having injured him or any one by my folly "

My master stares at me, at my eyes sparkling and face flushing with joy and relief. fancy he thinks I have gone mad. "You are-glad!" he says, "and yet you

love him!" "Oh, no, no, I don't. That is what I wanted to say. I liked him so much; he was such a hero, you know, and so kind and pleasant; and -and no one seemed to care as much-But I don't love him. I don't think I ever could that way-as his wife. It was quite different. Oh! Mr. Clifford," and my face drops into my hands again with sheme, "I suppose it was just a sort of flirting, though I never thought of it; and now I have vexed you, and neglected Dollie and George, and they will never love me the same again. Please, please let me go away at once-to-night,"

"Yes, it might be better to go away for a little," he says very low-so low that I can hardly hear; for I am crying bitterly now in very shame and sorrow.

"If you could only forgive me," I stammer out exceedingly humbly among my sobs. "If you could let me come back again after a time. I do love Dollie so very much, l couldn't bear to go for good."

"Do you think any of us could bear it?" asked my master. The sun has set long ago now, but there is a faint, green light away in the west, and the scent of the magnolias comes heavily upon the fluttering breaths of air. Stooping over me, he takes my hands from my face and holds them in his own.

"Marion, you said none of us cared for you much. Which would you rather have, the love which, taken from its rightful owner to give you, must be in some measure dishonoring, or that which would have crushed or blotted itself out from all sight or discovery forever if so be the loved one's happiness might have been furthered even one whit? Marion, look up to me frankly, like the honest little girl you are. I am a great deal older than you, graver and more stupid. Do you think you could ever love me-not a little, not mere liking, but as I love you, with my whole heart! Hush; don't answer me in a hurry. Even to have you for my wife and the mother of my children would be no joy to me unless it were indeed for your life's happiness. Take time to think of

it, and if you are sure"-But I don't take time. I am too startled, too happy to think at all, to be sure of anything but that my master has raised me from purgatory to heaven, the heaven of his love. I don't exactly know what I do or what I say -something undignified or indecorous, dare say. You may put it down as so if you like; it is probable. I only know he had taken me into his arms, and that I am sol bing and crying with my head all rumples. into a furze bush on the broad, tender breas which will bear with and cherish me all the days of my life. I only know that, gallant as our soldier heroes may be, I have found my true hero in a man of peace, a soldier . .

"Oo tea is yeady," mysa small voice at the door. "Me tum to say dood night." "Oh, may I take Dollie," I whisper, slip-

ping out of the arms which hold me, "when I go home to-morrow! I will take such anmense care of her till"-

"Till I come for you. Well, that will not be long; but is it not rather heartless to rob me of both my little girls at once?" THE END.

Health Preserved Is, without doubt, the jewel of great

price, and the one least valued. Disregard of symptoms that clearly indicate abnorma. action of the liver, stomach or bowels is nothing less than criminal. Health, through neglect, too often vanishes like a "Will o the Wisp," and the anxious seeker secures but pain and disappointment for his labour. No aid towards the preservation of health can surpass Hamilton's Pills of Mandrake and Butternut. These pills, being composed of vegetable substances, exert their remedial action without the evil effects too often following the use of pills containing mercury. For all bilious disorders they will even prove a positive specific. Hamilton's Pills are sold by all dealers in medicine and by Polson & Co., Kingston.

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