

GIRL ALONE

ANNE AUSTIN

THIS HAS HAPPENED

Sally Ford, ward of the state orphanage since she was four, is "famed out" to Clem Carson the summer she is 16, and meet David Nash, student who is working on the Carson farm. David hits Carson when he makes remarks about David's friendship for Sally. They run away and join a carnival. David as cook's helper and Sally as "Princess Lalla" crystal gazer.

In Capital City, location of the orphanage, Sally is recognized by one of a crowd of little orphans, accompanied by a beautiful "Lady Bountiful." Quick action on the part of the barker diverts attention from Sally. Sally learns from an easterner, who annoys her with his attentions—Arthur Van Horne—that the Lady Bountiful is Enid Barr, wife of a wealthy New Yorker.

In another state Sally and David believe danger of detection is over, and they go freely about. Mrs. Stone, matron of the orphanage, follows Sally and confronts her in the sidewalk. Again Gus, the barker, comes to her rescue and she manages to get away. She and David flee and plan to get married. The preacher is saying the first words of the service when Mrs. Stone and Enid Barr rush in and stop the ceremony.

CHAPTER XIII

It was the loving distress on Enid Barr's quivering face that quickly brought Sally to bewilderment, humiliated submission, rather than the cold anger and illecebrated hatred in Courtney Barr's pale gray eyes. Enid had left the arm of her husband's chair and had drawn Sally to a little rose-upholstered settee, and it was with her mother's hand cupping her cheek compassionately that Sally listened as the man's heavy, judicial voice went on and on:

"I am sure, Sally, that when you have had time for reflection you will see my viewpoint. Naturally, your mother's happiness means more to me than does yours, and I believe I know my wife well enough to state positively that a newspaper scandal or even gossip among our own circle would cause her the most acute distress. It shall be our task, Sally, to see that she is spared such distress."

"I'm sorry to hear that," said Sally stiffly. "But it is better for us to face the facts, for if our friends ever know them they will not mind words. If you should come into our home now, as you are, gossip would immediately set themselves to dig up the facts. Too many people already know that Sally Ford has been sought by the police as a delinquent. My wife and I could not possibly hope to explain our extraordinary interest in a runaway orphan. Do you agree with me, Sally?" He tried to make his voice kind, but his eyes were as cold and hard as steel.

"Yes, sir," Sally agreed in her meek, institutional voice. But she felt as sick with shame and anger that her only desire then was to run and run and run. At this thought, some of the spiritless ness which her few weeks of independence had fostered in her assailed itself. "But, Mr. Barr, if I would disgrace my mother, why don't you let me go? I can marry David and no one will ever know that I have a mother."

"That is very sensible, Sally," Courtney Barr nodded, a gleam of kindness in his cold eyes. "and I have tried to make your mother believe that your happiness would be best assured by your sticking to your own class."

"It isn't her class, if you mean that she's suited only to poverty and hard work," Enid Barr interrupted passionately. "Look at her, Courtney. She's a born lady! She's fine and delicate clear through."

"And so is David!" Sally cried indignantly. "He may be middle class, but he's the finest, most honorable man in the world!"

"We shall not quarrel about class," Courtney Barr cut in with heavy dignity. "The important thing is that your mother is determined to have you, to fit you for the station to which she belongs. I believe she is making a mistake, both from your standpoint and from hers, but I am willing to agree to a sensible arrangement. Our plan now, Sally, is to put you into a conservative, rather obscure girl's finishing school in the South. I have several re-

latives—poor relations, I suppose you would call them—in the South and it is my suggestion that you enter school as my ward—mine, you understand, not your mother's—so that any suspicion as to your real parentage will rest upon me, rather than upon her." He arched his eyebrows at Sally, looking rather consciously noble, and she nodded miserably. "During the two years that you will be in school—"

"Two years!" Sally echoed blankly. Two years more of loneliness, of not belonging, of being an orphan!

"Two years will pass very quickly," Courtney Barr assured her. "Eid please control yourself! I am infinitely sorry to distress you in this manner, but it is the only sensible thing to do."

"Yes, Court," Enid choked and buried her exquisite face in her small, useless-looking white hands. Sally put her arm about her mother, and leaned her glossy black head against the golden one. "I'll try to be contented and happy, Mr. Barr. Of course I want to protect Mother—"

"That is another thing, Sally," Courtney Barr interrupted in an almost gentle voice. "You must try to remember not to refer to Mrs. Barr as your mother in the hearing of anyone! If we are going to protect her, we must begin now."

"Yes, sir," Sally bowed her head lower so he might not see her tears. Both Mrs. Barr and I will drop casual remarks about my pretty young ward in school down South, until our friends have become accustomed to the idea. You will be registered as Sally Barr, a distant relative of my own, and my ward. It is even probable that it would not be unwise to have you with us for a short time next summer. We have an estate on Long Island, you know."

"As my ward and as my distant relative, you would not be particularly conspicuous, but our friends would meet you casually and be the less surprised when it became known that Mrs. Barr and I had decided to adopt you as our daughter. All our friends and acquaintances know that it has been a great grief to us that we have no children, and I believe our action in this matter would occasion no great surprise. The adoption itself will take place before your 18th birthday, while you are still in school. If there is any newspaper publicity, it will be of an innocuous kind, I hope."

"Naturally I shall take care that any newspaper investigation will not be able to go back of the story. I shall prepare very carefully, and if there is any hint of scandal at all, I will inevitably reflect on me and not on your mother, as I have already pointed out. After your adoption and your graduation from the finishing school, you will of course take your place in our home as our daughter, will make your debut in society that fall, and I hope, be very happy with us, and in your new life."

Sally sat very still, her eyes wide and blank, while her bewildered, unhappy mind tried to picture the future which Courtney Barr was outlining for her. At last she shook her head, as if to shake away the mists of doubt and bewilderment. Her mother had taken Sally's little box, cold hands and was cupping them against her cheeks, bringing a finger tip to her lips occasionally.

"Poor baby!" Enid whispered brokenly, and the spell was broken. The hard lump of unhappiness and resentment that had been aching in Sally's throat since Courtney Barr had begun to speak melted in tears. They wept in each other's arms, while Enid's husband walked impatiently up and down the room.

When the storm had spent itself, Sally remembered David again, and pain and fear contracted her heart sharply.

"Did you see David, Mr. Barr?" She sat up and dabbed at her wet cheeks with one of the exquisite sheer linen handkerchiefs which Enid had given her.

"Oh, yes, yes," Barr answered quickly. "I managed his affairs very neatly. Hand, the district attorney, personally attended to the quashing of the charges against him, and it cost only a thousand dollars to get Carson to issue a statement to the press that he had really seen nothing compromising between young Nash and yourself. He also admitted that the boy's anger had been in a measure justified, that the assault had been provoked by his own mistaken charges against you and Nash. Now and he can go back to college this fall. I also saw his grandfather, and persuaded him that the boy had been a hero rather than a blackguard. Young Nash is at home on his grandfather's farm again, so that incident is successfully closed."

Gratitude brought Sally to her feet. "Thank you, Mr. Barr! You're been wonderful! It won't be so hard for me to be away at school if I know that David is in school, too. I wrote him tonight, but I'll keep it up and write a new letter telling him all about everything and how happy I am that he's free of those awful charges."

"No, Sally," Barr interrupted, frowning. "Your mother and I are agreed that you must not write to young Nash, that there must be no thought of an engagement between you."

"Not write to David?" Sally echoed blankly. "I love David, Mr. Barr, and I always will. It's not fair to ask him to promise not to write to me."

"I already have his promise not to write to you," Barr told her placably. "He understands the situation, agrees with your mother and me that your past must be forgotten as quickly as possible. You are entering upon a new life to-morrow when you leave for Virginia with me, a life that will be totally different from David Nash's. You will—though you don't seem to realize it—be an heiress to great wealth some day."

BREMEN CREW WILL TOUR UNITED STATES

(Associated Press Local Wire) NEW YORK, May 1.—The German-Italian crew of the trans-Atlantic monoplane Bremen will leave May 8 for an air tour of all the principal cities of the country. It was announced today that invitations had been received from practically all the big cities and that they would all be accepted. The itinerary has not yet been made up.

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(Associated Press Local Wire) EUGENE, Ore., May 1.—Shorty Harris, woodsman employed by the Anderson and Middleton Logging company on Camp Creek near Cottage Grove, has been missing since early Monday, according to reports received here. Harris was sent into the woods to build the trail and failed to return to the Camp Creek camp Monday night. Early Tuesday a crew of sixty men was organized and have started a search of the hilly country.

Harris' tools were found where he expected to commence work. His lunch pail was missing. It is feared he met with an accident while making a preliminary cruise of the area in which he was to build trail.

For sale—John Doore, 3-bottom, 16-inch orchard tractor plow, new, for \$125. Stearns & Chenoweth, Oakland, Oregon.

NEW AIR MAIL LINK

(Associated Press Local Wire) ATLANTA, May 1.—The south and the nation's capital today were woven into the network of America's aerial transportation system as a New York-Atlanta-New Orleans line was attached to the transcontinental line.

Elaborate ceremonies had been arranged with Postmaster General Harris H. New in the role of postman to deliver a consignment of mail to plane at Washington for the initial trip.

All around spring house cleaning, floor waxing, window washing, work guaranteed. C. Davis, 294 S. Parrott.



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Today, thousands of Silvertowns "built in the West" are rolling from the production line of the new Pacific-Goodrich Factory.

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M. E. CONFERENCE OPENS IN KANSAS

KANSAS CITY, May 1.—Guided by leaders who measure their service by decades, representatives of 75,000,000 persons affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church today devoted themselves to perfection of their quadrennial general conference at the first of a month of daily sessions here.

With 879 delegates from 37 countries present, Bishop Joseph P. Berry of Philadelphia, for the third time was accorded the honor of presiding at the initial assembly of a general conference.

THREE MEN LOOT BANK IN KANSAS

(Associated Press Local Wire) HAVANA, Kansas, May 1.—School children today returned \$115.91 to the Havana State bank, after picking up the money in the street, where it was scattered by the three men who robbed the bank yesterday.

The bank's net loss was reduced because of the honesty of the children to \$1,807.19.

MILL LOADER KILLED

(Associated Press Local Wire) PORTLAND, Ore., May 1.—Ralph Sibley, 25, of St. Helens, a loader at the Sherman Mill, company yards near Mountaineer, was fatally injured this afternoon when a chain broke on a loading rig, throwing a log on him. He died at a hospital at Hillsboro.

MEDFORD WOMAN DRAWS JAIL TERM FOR BOOZE

(Associated Press Local Wire) MEDFORD, Ore., May 1.—Mrs. Goldie McDonald, 29, entered a plea of guilty this afternoon in justice court, and was fined \$25 and sentenced to 30 days in the county jail for liquor possession. She is the first woman to be placed in the Jackson county jail for over two years.

GOODS ARRIVING

The first consignment of goods for the new Montgomery Ward and Company store arrived last night. S. K. Sykes has completed the improvement of the building the store is to occupy, and last night

Most Nurses Use New Face Powder

MELLO-GLO, the new wonder French Process Face Powder, is preferred by nurses because of its purity, and they say it does not make the skin dry and drawn. Stays on longer, keeps skin away, and is very beneficial to complexion. You will love MELLO-GLO when you use it. Nathan Fulton.

ANTI-KNOCK



RED CROWN

GASOLINE

needs no "dope"

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA