Orchid

BY ELEANOR KIRBY

THIS HAS HAPPENED

Orchid's real name is Ashtoreth—Ashtoreth Ashe. Her mother, a romantic woman, named her for the moon goddess of ancient Egypt—the love goddess to whom Egyptian women prayed. A rather absurd name—and yet it seemed, peculiarly, to suit the girl. For she is extraordinarily beautiful, in an unusual and exotic sort of way.

Hollis Hart, the famous financier, was immensely impressed the first time he saw her—and Hollis Hart was not a susceptible person. He was, in fact, one of the wealthiest and most eligible bachelors in America.

Ashtoreth went to work for Hart, Lee, Inc., when she was 18 years old. Hart, at the time, must have been nearly 50—old enough to be her father.

Ashtoreth rather swept him off his feet the first day she entered his office. No one knew how to dress more successfully than Ashtoreth. On $18 she could look like a rich man's daughter. She wore black exclusively. And on this particular day happened to be wearing a most unusual ring that attracted her employer's attention. An imitation scarab. Hart, interested in archaeology, noticed it immediately.

When he commented upon it, Ashtoreth spoke casually of Egypt and of Cleopatra. Hart, impressed by her rather unusual familiarity with the customs and manners of ancient Egypt, engaged her in conversation. He learned that her name was that of the old moon goddess. Tremendously surprised, he shows an unusual interest in the new stenographer. And Ashtoreth, thrilled by his attention, takes his dictation with her head in a lovely whirl.

That night she reads about Cleopatra until dawn, because—in reality—she had pretended a knowledge of things with which she was not at all familiar. She goes to work hoping that Mr. Hart will speak of Cleopatra again, so that she may air her new knowledge.

To her intense surprise he summons her to ask her opinion regarding a letter he has just received. Dumbfounded, she takes it from his hand.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER II

It was an amazing letter. Inscribed on expensive stationery. Heavy with foreign scent. The girl who wrote it had used green ink and a stub pen. She wrote violently. A round, childish hand, sparing neither endearments nor threats.

"Dearest Holly," she demanded.

Why don't you phone me? Where were you every night last week? I'm just crazy about you, Holly. I can't read, I can't eat, I can't sleep—oh God, how I suffer! You don't know the way a loving girl can suffer or you wouldn't leave me alone with my thoughts and misery. I get so desperate thinking about you, and have you gone back on me? I guess you think you can break my heart and walk all over me, after you made me so crazy about you. But I'm not one of the kind you can cast off like an old shoe, I guess you know what the poet said about hell doesn't know any fury like a woman when you get through with her. But you're not through with me, are you, dear? I guess I'm sort of crazy because I love you, and you don't come to see me any more.

Someone told me I got a good case against you with the apartment all furnished and everything. But God knows I don't want to do anything like that.

Maybe you think I am crazy, raving on like this. But I thought you didn't get my messages that I leave on the telephone, and you would get mad if I went to see you like you told me not to. So please come back to your loving

MAE.

* * *

Ashtoreth handed the surprising communication back to her employer. Acutely uncomfortable, she stood rigidly by his desk.

"I do not understand," she said, "why you wished me to read your most personal correspondence."

"Because," he explained, "I wanted to get your reaction. I wanted to see the effect of a letter like that on a girl like you. A whim, perhaps.

"Mae de Marr worked in this office once. A filing clerk, I believe. I wondered how many girls like her there are out there. I thought, perhaps, you could tell me."

Ashtoreth raised her head.

"I am afraid," she said, "that I cannot help you. I wonder why you thought I could."

"I hope I have not offended you," he apologized. "I assure you there was nothing at all personal in my inquiry. I'm simply interested in this modern girl proposition. I thought maybe you could help me see the light."

He came then, and stood in front of her.

"Please, Miss Ashe," he appealed boyishly, "tell me—what's it all about?" They say modern girls are self-respecting. We hear so much about the modern girl and her independence. It's just a lot of nonsense, isn't it? Be a good sport, Miss Ashe—how many Mae de Marrs have I out there?"

"You mean," she asked evenly, "how many girls would let you set them up in an apartment, and be prepared, when you had tired of them, to step out of the picture?"

"My gosh, Miss Ashe!"

Hart explored his pockets nervously for cigarets.

"Hold on a minute. You've got me quite wrong. I wasn't—if you'll pardon the expression—keeping Miss de Marr. She came to me a few months ago with a hard luck story. I was sorry for the girl. She's something of a moron, you see. A pretty little thing, with the mentality, I should say, of a 12-year-old. And the sex appeal of a born courtesan. You know the type.

"Her mother, she said, had thrown her out. There'd been a bit of scandal and the old folks were pretty much upset. It may seem a bit Don Quixotic, but—well, to tell the truth—"

* * *

Mr. Hart paused to light a cigaret, and Ashtoreth scribbled "Don Quixotic" on the cover of her notebook. Something else to look up in the library. Ghastly how many things a girl didn't know. Lots of people used the expression. She wondered if they all knew what it meant.

He glanced at her quickly as she slipped her pencil back in place. But her hands were folded now as before, quietly in her lap.

"My secretary," he informed her surprisingly, "has a perfect passion for cats. A few months ago he suggested that we endow something or other for homeless felines. A hospital, I think it was—an asylum for indigent animals. Dogs, too, if I remember correctly. He persuaded me to sign a check for $10,000.

"Well, he hadn't been out of here 10 minutes—with my check in his pocket—when in walks this little De Marr. Crying her eyes out. It was about six o'clock. She'd waited, I suppose, until the rest of the girls had gone. I was waiting myself for a telephone call.

"Now—I wonder if I can make myself clear—Mr. Higgins goes in, you see, for dumb animals. Well, here was a dumb woman. And, if a flock of cats is worth $10,000, how much, I ask myself, is a woman worth? If a man can endow a home for animals, to keep them off the streets, how about a girl? How much was it worth to keep her off the streets?"

Mr. Hart paused.

"A purely rhetorical question," he assured her. "I was merely speculating. It's puzzling—the relative value of things. Particularly when a man with a philanthropic bent acquires a great deal of money.

"Can you imagine, Miss Ashe, having so much money that it doesn't make any difference—to me, I mean—whether I spend it on starving cats or foolish girls?"

"You don't really mean that?" she gasped.

"Well," he admitted, "there is more kick, of course, in spending it on girls. Cats are so undemonstrative, don't you know. Anyhow I reckoned it would be more fun squandering a few thousand on the little De Marr. A better return, you might say, on the investment."

"Oh."

Ashtoreth straightened unconsciously in her high-backed chair.

"No," he murmured, "I didn't mean that at all. My word, you are a suspicious young person. My motives, I assure you, were entirely respectable. Only I'd rather incur the gratitude of a pretty girl than the feline caresses of the best dam' Maltese in Boston. An entirely masculine point of view. Perhaps you do not appreciate it, Miss Ashe."

"Oh, yes," she retorted, "I quite understand."

"Miss de Marr," he resumed, "talks a lot about the 'modern girl.' Now I wonder what it is, Miss Ashe, that makes people do that."

He smiled ingratiatingly, and Ashtoreth noticed the humorous little lift of an eyebrow. He was, really, she decided, quite charming.

"You'd think," he complained, "that she was an entirely new species. The newspapers prate of her, and the reformers. And the best sellers are all about her. The general opinion seems to be that this so-called modern girl is a paragon of all the recent virtues. Honest, fearless, clear thinking, independent.

"Personally, I'm beginning to think she's a good deal of a fraud. It seems to me that she's pretty proficient in most of the old-time vices. I might almost say that she practices them exclusively. And this war cry of hers—'Independence and Equal Rights!' is rather a lot of hokum. However, Miss de Mar may be an exception, of course. That's what I'd like you to tell me."

(To Be Continued)

Hollis Hart continues the story of his amazing philanthropy and the ingratitude of Mae de Marr, the girl of mystery. And Ashtoreth denies her mother! In the next chapter.

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We have a complete stock of fresh seeds. Send us your order and we will fill it promptly. Wharton Bros.

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OREGON CITY POLICEMAN USES PISTOL ON ROBBERS

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

OREGON CITY, Ore., Jan. 8.—Two robbers carting away loot from the Star restaurant were surprised today by Patrolman Otto Miller, who fired several shots at them. One of the pair was believed to have been wounded. The officer ran out of bullets and was obliged to take shelter in a doorway when one of the fugitives drew a pistol.

Police suspect the pair were the same robbers who attempted to force open the safes of the Oregon City Laundry and the Taylor Wiggins garage last night. In the laundry they pried open two drawers of a cash register but did not open the third, which contained money.

HEALTH BULLETIN

The After-Care of Influenza

The after-care of influenza is quite as important as care during the acute stage of disease. Any illness and particularly a weakening illness like "flu" lowers the resistance of the individual to invasion by other organisms.

This is especially true of tuberculosis. It is significant that about ninety per cent of positively diagnosed tuberculosis gives a history of having had repeated attacks of influenza or a slow recovery of a single attack. The infection with the tubercle bacillus is almost universal. Ninety-five per cent of postmortems done show evidence of invasion in the body. As disease occurs only when the amount of infection overbalances the resistance to disease, symptoms may not be produced immediately, but the infection lies dormant for from one to twenty years. The germs of tuberculosis never heard of the Marquis of Queensbury's rules and when the resistance is down the infection literally jumps on one and gives him a kick.

If a vomit and weakness persist following "flu" or night sweats occur, tuberculosis may be starting. Go to your family doctor for a chest examination after the "flu." Do not wait until symptoms develop. —Douglas County Health Unit.

JARDINE GIVES REVIEW OF 1928 FARM SITUATION

In taking stock of the year of 1928 in agriculture, Secretary of Agriculture W. M. Jardine states that when we try to estimate the present condition of farming in the United States we should consider not only the ground to be won, but also the resistance that already has been overcome. Judged by this standard, he said, speaking as one who "knows the ups and downs of farming from first-hand experience," our progress since 1921 is highly creditable to the ones most responsible, the farmers themselves.

However, Secretary Jardine emphasized that he did not believe the remedy for agricultural conditions lies wholly in the hands of farmers. According credit for their efforts, and also to government interest as indicated by more than twenty favorable laws passed during the period of depression, he said, "the farming industry with its six and a half million units is not in a good position to take advantage of the laws already passed or ones that will be put on the statute books for their benefit. We need to so organize agriculture that it can act quickly and intelligently as a group. We don't want farmers in different sections working at cross purposes. It is good business for farmers and good statesman for government to achieve for agriculture the same solidarity in organization that business already enjoys."

Reviewing the farm year the speaker said the events of 1928 "remind us that fortunes ebb and flow in the various branches of farming. The cattle and sheep sections of the west once more have enjoyed a good year. The cotton belt has done fairly well. The dairy industry has done well. Poultry raisers made money. Potato growers and many wheat growers passed through a trying business year. Returns from hay and tobacco will be lower than last year.

In each instance, different circumstances brought about the year's results."

It appears, the secretary said, that agriculture's gross income for the crop year will be slightly higher than last, and that the net income "will exceed that of last year by more than one would conclude from a study of the gross income figures alone. Prices of some of the principal supplies used in farm production were about the same in the two years, but many farmers economized on these items. By greater efficiency, farmers saved more labor, got more out of feedstuffs, and did away with certain wastes in the process of getting their products to the consumer. We may safely say that American farmers produced more with fewer hands this year than ever before."

Better results would have followed better planning, the speaker continued, citing particularly the "ruinous situation" in the potato industry resulting from expanded acreage in the face of warnings issued by the department in January, March and May. With more intelligent use of the information afforded by the economic studies made in the department, he said, much may be done to control production. The secretary called particular attention to the annual outlook report to be issued late in January.

Rounding out the view of the year, Secretary Jardine called attention to the fact that "our industrial population at home is the largest, most prosperous, and affords our farmers the best domestic market in the world. In the past quarter of a century farmers of the United States have become less dependent on foreign markets as shown by the fact that exports of agricultural commodities are becoming a diminishing part of our total exports. Our national policy is to insure the splendid domestic market to our farmers by an adequate protective tariff." He also said that foreign markets offer reasonably good prospects, particularly in the Orient and South America.

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LATIN ALPHABET BREEDS REVOLT IN NEW TURKEY

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 7.—Fear of Moslems that their sacred religion was being undermined, by the introduction of the Latin alphabet and other measures, was believed today to have resulted in plots which were suppressed by the government at Sivas and Brousa.

The new alphabet became effective on New Year's day when street criers beat drums in every village throughout Turkey calling on males and females between 16 and 40 years old to enroll in the new national schools.

GARY MEMORIAL CHURCH BURNED; LOSS $225,000

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—The Gary Memorial Methodist Episcopal church of Wheaton, Ill., erected by the late Elbert H. Gary and endowed by him in his will, was destroyed by fire early today. An overheated furnace was blamed for the fire, which caused an estimated loss of $225,000.

The church was erected in 1900 in memory of Mr. Gary's father and mother.

SEATTLE FIRE FATAL TO ONE; TWO IN HOSPITAL

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

SEATTLE, Jan. 8.—One man succumbed to smoke and two others were severely burned in a hotel and rooming house fire here early today. Damage to the building was only $4000. The fire was believed to have been caused by a carelessly thrown cigarette. W.

THREE WAYS TO LOSE FAT

One is starvation, one abnormal exercise. The other is embodied in Marmola prescription tablets. The Marmola way is based on modern research. It has been used for 20 years—millions of boxes of it. The results are seen in almost every circle, in new beauty, new health and vitality.

A book in each box of Marmola gives the complete formula, also the reasons for results. Users know just how and why the changes come about, and why they are beneficial. Learn the facts. Try the scientific help which has done so much for so many, and watch what it does for you. Start today by asking your druggist for a $1 box of Marmola.

P. Harris, 45, longshoreman, was found dead in an upper hallway near his door, where he apparently had been overcome by smoke while trying to escape the flames. He had stopped to dress. Others guests fled to safety in night clothing.

K. Omatsu, proprietor, and Oscar Berg, a roomer, were taken to the hospital with bad burns. Firemen halted one roomer, who desperate with fear, was poised on a third floor window sill ready to jump. He was led to safety down a staircase.

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HUSBAND SHOOTS WIFE THEN COMMITS SUICIDE

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 8.—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Drevoir, of Oakland, were shot and critically wounded here last night, and police said Drevoir had shot the woman and then attempted suicide.

Mrs. Drevoir was shot twice through the breast, and Drevoir was wounded just over the heart. Hospital authorities said the woman had a chance to recover, but that Drevoir probably would die. The woman told police her husband was insanely jealous.

The couple were married last April. Drevoir is 24, and his wife 27 years old.

13 MEN LOSE APPEAL FROM LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The government won in a big prohibition case from Seattle today involving thirteen men who were convicted of conspiring with 64 others to violate the prohibition law.

Pete Dahl, George Kearns and eleven others were refused a supreme court review of their cases on which they contested on the ground that the district attorney who prosecuted them emphasized their failure to take the witness stand and that accomplices were permitted to testify without instructions from the judge as to the weight such testimony should be given.

DEFORESTATION PROBLEMS SERIOUS JARDINE REPORTS

The grave consequences of continued deforestation make it imperative that the federal government, the states, and the timberland owners join cooperatively in a more positive and aggressive effort to end the evils of forest devastation, according to a statement by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine made in connection with comments on a pamphlet "Deforested America," written by Major George P. Ahern, formerly chief forester of the Philippines and one of the earliest exponents of modern forestry in the United States—a pamphlet widely circulated by ex-Governor Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania, who was chief forester during the Roosevelt administration.

Pointing out the progress thus far made in the cooperative forestry movement, Secretary Jardine expressed the belief that cooperation between government and industry is applicable to the forest situation on a much larger scale than it has hitherto been applied, but stated that if the cooperative method proves inadequate, national security will require that it be supplemented or supplanted by more drastic measures.

Although expressing the view that the forest situation is far from satisfactory and that forest destruction is widespread, Secretary Jardine pointed to the progress made in forestry, especially under the cooperative forest fire control program of the federal government, the states, and private land owners. In this program both the states and many private land owners have worked loyally with the Department of Agriculture, said the secretary, and progress is being made by some of the more progressive lumber companies and land owners in the adoption of other improved forest practices besides fire protection.

"The department of agriculture is interested in the forest problem not only as a matter of timber supply, but as a matter of productive use of land," the statement continues. "One-fourth of our total land area is better suited physically and economically for forest production than for any other purpose, and the continued deterioration of this vast resource is adversely affecting agriculture as well as every other line of industry."

The secretary pointed out the large responsibilities with which his department is charged in the forest enterprise as a whole. It administers the national forests, participates in a large program of forest land purchase, is responsible for much research in forestry and forest utilization, and administers the extensive Clarke-McNary program of cooperation in forest fire control and other phases of forestry with the states and private forest owners.

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"Yes, he won't buy a calendar in case he dies before the year is out."—Fliegende Blaetter, Munich.

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CONDENSED REPORT OF

FARMERS SECURITY BANK

YONCALLA, OREGON

Statement of condition at close of business December 31, 1928.

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts	$126,053.31
Bonds and Warrants	64,410.05
Furniture and Fixtures	1,000.00
Cash and Due from Banks	59,615.01
	$251,078.37
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	$ 15,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits	8,311.33
Deposits	227,767.04
	$251,078.37

A. L. LASSWELL, Cashier

Wednesday

JANUARY 9

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Men who pride themselves on keeping fit discovered this long ago. They know that Luckies steady their nerves and do not impair their physical condition—many prominent athletes have testified to this fact. They discovered, too, that Luckies don't irritate the throat—a fact subscribed to by 20,679 physicians.

A reasonable proportion of sugar in the diet is recommended, but the authorities are overwhelming that too many fattening sweets are harmful and that too many such are eaten by the American people. So, for moderation's sake we say:—

"REACH FOR A LUCKY INSTEAD OF A SWEET."

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Reach for a Lucky instead of a sweet.

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