

Nothing Venture

by Patricia Wentworth

SYNOPSIS: Nan hotly insists that the broken bridge that bent her own and her husband's life was weakened by the murderous Robert Leonard, whom she has seen skulking about the estate. Jervis is sure that she and will not believe her. Rosamund Carew, Jervis' treacherous former fiancée, calls with Janet Tetterley and they maliciously force Ann to tell that her father was Nigel Forsyth, famous explorer, who died in 1919 at Bagdad.

Chapter 22
ALMOST AN APOLOGY
The evening was very hot. Monk brought them tea in the library. It was still broad daylight, the terrace and the long slope to the ravine in full sun, and the shadows on the lawn dead still.
Jervis went out on to the terrace, and Nan picked up a book. As long as Monk was in the room they had talked quite easily and pleasantly; when Monk was gone there seemed to be nothing to say—or too much. It was a relief to go through the pages of a book into another world. She had read no more than half a chapter, when she heard Jervis come back.
He rang to have the coffee taken away, and stood by the window smoking a cigarette until the door had closed behind Monk. Then he came over to where Nan sat by a window facing the shadowed lawn. He stood looking down upon her.
"Rather unwise of you to commit yourself like that to Tetterley," Nan looked up. If she was startled she did not show it. Her eyes had the wide, steady gaze which roused something in him. Anger? He took it to be anger.
"Dashing, of course—but a bit unwise, don't you think?"
"I don't know at all what you mean," said Nan.
"Really?"
"Really."
"I'm afraid you've a bad memory. It was quite amusing to see you

call Tetterley's bluff, but I think you'd better have held your tongue. You see, she's only got to look up an old Who's Who to score off you rather badly. And as it happens, Basher is the sort of fellow who would be sure to have cartloads of old encyclopedias and Who's Who knocking about the place."
"I don't know what you mean."
He sat down on the arm of a big chair and leaned towards her.
"Oh, I think you do. Janet's as inquisitive as they're made. She'll go home, and she and Basher will look up the appropriate volume—I forget what year Nigel Forsyth died?"
"Nineteen-nineteen," said Nan.
"Oh, you've looked it up?"
"You didn't finish what you were saying."
"Need I?"
"Please." He laughed, got up, crossed the room, bent to one of the lowest shelves, and came back with a red book in his hand.
"All right—you've asked for it. Here we are! My grandfather was a "Nineteen-nineteen," said Nan.
"Who's Who for 1918."
He flicked over the leaves. "Here goes!"—Forsyth, Nigel Darnaway, Third son of Alastair Darnaway Forsyth of Ridgefield, Conn. Born 1875. Educated Princeton, Oxford.
"Why are you reading all that?" said Nan.
"You mean that it isn't news to you you've been there already?"
Nan had a faint smile. "I should be likely to know."
He laughed.
"Meaning that it was premeditated and you naturally got up the documentary evidence! But now we come to the important part—"Married 1908 Constance Livingston."
"Yes," said Nan—"my mother."
"It won't do," he said. "You were a little fool to think you could pull it off."
Nan stood up.
"You don't believe me?"
"No, I don't." He laughed.
"Let's drop it! But if I were you, I should leave the ancestry vague. Nigel Forsyth is just a bit too well known."
"Nigel Forsyth was my father, and Constance Livingston was my mother. My father's people were furious about the marriage because my mother was on the stage. She died when Cynthia was six months old, and my father never forgave his father for the things he had said about her."
"He went out to Mesopotamia, leaving us with a sort of aunt. Her name was Mrs. Whipple—she was my mother's half-sister and the widow of a Major Whipple of the regular army. My father only came home once after the war. He died at Bagdad in nineteen-nineteen. There was only a very little money. Mrs. Whipple—she hesitated. "I can't be fair to her, because she made Cynthia very unhappy. I think she tried to choke her drop. She wasn't fond of my children. She wasn't fond of us, and she didn't understand Cynthia. That's why I went to Solano's as a dancing partner—I simply had to get Cynthia away."
The salt from Jervis' cigarette fell and powdered the carpet. He had been looking at her hard. His expression changed suddenly.
"You mean it's true?"
"It's quite easy for me to prove that it's true. I have my father's letters—I can show them to you."
His face changed again. The momentary embarrassment passed. He looked like a triumphant schoolboy.

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"I've fallen on my feet! I congratulate myself—you're too angry to do for me, of course—but I'm about to apologize."
She took a step away from him.
"Why didn't you believe me?"
He didn't answer the question.
"You've seen Rosamund. Probably you know her as well as I. I didn't love her. But I did think we might make a go of it. And when she let me down it was a colossal crash. I'm taking no more chances—I'll beg your pardon when I see those letters."
"You're going to make me pay Rosamund's debts?"
"Probably," returned Jervis.
Nan flared up.
"But suppose I won't pay?" she demanded hotly.
(Copyright, 1932, Lippincott)
(To Be Continued)

Chats With Parents

AN INDIRECT LESSON
By Alice Judson Peale
Marcia visiting a favorite aunt was in the habit of littering the floor with papers. On one such occasion there was talk about the two puppies which had received as gifts from her aunt, and she was asked to stay at her home.
"Will they like to play with me?" asked Marcia.
"Yes, I'm sure they will."
"What kind of games will they play?"
"Oh, all sorts. I think they will like to play with papers, just as you do."
"Will they leave them on the floor?" asked Marcia in a cautious, thoughtful tone, "and will you spank them?"
"No, I won't spank them. I'll just put them out-of-doors and let them play outside. You see I can't have them in the house if they make it untidy."
Marcia looked at her aunt for a moment and seeing on her face only a pleasant, non-committal expression, stopped and began rapidly picking up the papers and putting them into the waste basket.

Marcia was what is known as a contrary child. Had her aunt told her directly that she must keep the floor clean, she undoubtedly would have sulked and accomplished the task only with the greatest amount of help and insistence, if at all.
The little story of the dogs achieved what no direct command would have done. Marcia thought of the puppies as playmates. What happened to them would certainly happen to her. No one needed to tell her what to do. She would be a good girl so as always to be allowed to play in auntie's living room.

The Garden

LITTLE BULBS FOR THE ROCK GARDEN
A rock garden is a garden for little plants, the miniatures, the tiny jewels, lost in the average perennial border or formal garden.
The first massing of brilliance in the rock garden will be given by the little bulbs as well as the first affectionate greeting of the softer color of the earliest bloom—the snowdrops, white with green trimming. Now is the time to go over the rockery where the plants are about to enter their winter sleep and wherever a bare spot of soil shows itself, tuck in a few of the tiny bulbs which will pop up with the first warm suns of spring, give their beauty, and then withdraw to the tiny bulb in time to be out of the way of the later subjects.
The rock garden is not for the common run of garden plants. It is a garden for the smaller plants and especially for the species which often retain a delicate beauty lost in their more colorful children. Plant crocus species, as well as the named varieties. There are a number of fine sorts.
Plant such snowdrops as you can find catalogued. Try the tribe of muscari, the grape hyacinths.
The California dog-tooth violets or trout lilies as well as the eastern forms are beautiful material. The little yellow winter aconite, Eranthis hyemalis, difficult to grow under ordinary garden conditions, usually takes kindly to the rockery. The intense blue of the Siberian squill, which will grow anywhere, is a fine rock garden note. There are other squills of equal beauty. California offers some tiny bulbs of rare beauty in its butterfly tulip and brodiaea.
Some of the smaller tulip species such as the lady tulip, ciliolata, are fine rock garden material. You may steal a march on the season and have the rock garden a thing of sparkling beauty before the regular rock garden perennials start their season by the liberal use of the little bulbs of early spring.
The miniature narcissus are indispensable for rock garden use and are one of the real gems of the miniature garden.

Health

STITCH
As ordinarily used, the term stitch applies to a sharp and sudden pain felt in the region of the groin, usually after severe muscular exercise.
It is more common when exercise is taken shortly after one has eaten. The budding athlete not infrequently asks the question as to why he suffers a stitch in the side, and the wise athletic director and physician give him the best answers they can—usually no more than hazarded guesses.
Though stitch has been known to occur in athletes and in persons who indulge in heavy exercise since Biblical times, there is as yet no adequate explanation for this sudden and at times agonizing phenomenon.
It was long believed that the spleen had something to do with this pain, and in the professional runners of antiquity the spleen was occasionally removed as a measure for the prevention of stitch.
But now it appears that there was no warrant for such an operation.
The spleen is located on the left side, and stitch may as frequently occur on the right side as on the left.

\$180,000 IS CUT FROM EXPENSE, HOSS REPORTS

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 3 (Special)—The slashing of operating costs by a total of \$180,000 during the current biennium has been an accomplishment of the secretary of state's office, according to the biennial report being prepared this week by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state, for the January legislative assembly.
"Savings resulting from this retrenchment program will revert in part to the general fund to help reduce the state deficit, while the balance will go to the state highway fund and to the counties that participate in the automobile license funds. The current savings are part of my economy program that was instituted in 1929," pointed out Secretary Hoss.
"The biennial report shows budget estimate reductions in the general office, maintenance of capital buildings, reductions in the motor vehicle department, and features the low operating expense of the gasoline tax department, which is less than any other state in the union with similar laws. Bills for books and meals for employees of my department were less than any other state official."
"All of the employees of the department of state, including myself, have taken salary cuts as recommended last spring," Hoss declared.
"The American sound film has been found 'extremely popular,'" Brassil by the commerce department.

Daily Cross-Word Puzzle

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

1. Remove	11. Otherwise	21. Babylonian deity	31. Covered by	41. Member of
2. Ornamental	12. Hebrew letter	22. The select	32. Negative	42. In that place
3. On condition that	13. Makes amends	23. Sand hill; Eng.	33. Affirmative	43. Those who sing and play under a window
4. Exits	14. Drunkard	24. Make headway against	34. In that place	44. Pouch
5. Point	15. Babylonian deity	25. Jury list	35. Son of Judah	
6. Drunkard	16. Babylonian deity	26. Make headway against	36. Those who sing and play under a window	
7. Babylonian deity	17. Exits	27. Sand hill; Eng.	37. In that place	
8. Point	18. Drunkard	28. Jury list	38. Those who sing and play under a window	
9. Babylonian deity	19. Makes amends	29. Make headway against	39. In that place	
10. Hebrew letter	20. The select	30. Sand hill; Eng.	40. Member of	

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THAT ALL SOUNDS BIG, BUT WHERE DO I CASH IN, BIG BOY?

WHATEVER WE CHISEL OUT OF THIS, WE'LL SPLIT FIFTY-FIFTY

YOU MEAN I'M T'GET ONE-HALF OF THOSE MILLIONS. OKAY, BIG SHOT! I'M ON!!

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FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

FRECKLES SAID HE WASN'T GOING TO PLAY IN THE MILFORD GAME... I WONDER IF HE WAS PUT OFF THE TEAM?

IS THE TEAM PRACTICING TODAY? AN' COULD I GET IN TO SEE 'EM?

YEAH...THE COACH HAS SOME OF THE PLAYERS OUT THERE NOW!!

YEP..... FRECKLES IS THERE!! HOT DOG!!

THAT'S BETTER... YOU'RE GETTING IT DOWN PAT, MY BOY!!

WOW! HE SURE CAN GET UNDER THOSE PASSES!!

WHY DID HE TELL ME HE WASN'T GOING TO BE IN THE MILFORD GAME?

HEY, FELLAS. FRECKLES IS STILL ON THE TEAM!!

COURSE HES ON THE TEAM...WHO SAID HE WASN'T?

YEAH... WHAT'S EATIN' ATCHA?

MUGGY SENT ME!

HUM—I GUESS YOU'LL DO, SIT DOWN!

SO YOU SEE, THIS IS A BIG STAKE—THE FINNEGAN MILLIONS—YOU DON'T HAVE TO OPEN YOUR MOUTH—I'LL DO THE TALKING—I HAVE THE NECESSARY PAPERS TO PROVE THAT YOU ARE THE RIGHTFUL HEIR—THE ONE AND ONLY GLADYS FINNEGAN

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