

way, and nobody can say what stand a woman will take in the matter. I think that if a girl loves a man she will marry him whether he is handsome or not handsome, brainy or not brainy, wealthy or poor and proud. As an impartial judge I think that John is right when he says that there is a type of women who really do look ahead before their wedding day, yet what Jim has said is none the less true. It is a serious fault in our American civilization that girls know so little about their husbands before they marry them."

Old Judge Osburn, father of the three boys, had been lounging in his Morris chair in front of the fire-place, listening to the conversation. The judge was usually gay, happy and jovial, but a touch of rheumatism during the past week had made him somewhat peevish and cynical. "You are right, my boy," he said when Harry finished, "and for the very reason that young people in love do not look ahead, we find the cause for so many divorce cases on the docket every term of court. It was only the other day," he went on, "that a friend of mine was telling me that he believed that one out of almost every two parties to a marriage contract gets cheated."

The discussion would perhaps have continued ad infinitum, but Mrs. Osburn announced, at that moment, that dinner was waiting and the argument was at an end.

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The three Osburn brothers were a remarkable trio, sons of an exceptionally brilliant father and mother, but the most remarkable thing about them was that they were triplets.

As boys, the three had essentially the same characteristics, which they now manifested. John was quiet, reserved and a book worm. He was kind and generous with everybody yet there was a reserve about him which kept everybody from really understanding him except those few who had cultivated an intimate acquaintance. Jim had always been excessively fond of life and sports, yet he was as tender-hearted and affectionate as either of his brothers. Harry was the life and wit of the family. He was always fond of reading and even more fond of talking. The Osburn boys, as children, were not only the pride of their parents, but also of the entire neighborhood.

In their boyhood days the three had been inseparable, so close was their bond of brotherhood. Through their high school and college days this same brotherly affection had existed and now, even