

# Rex Beach Short Stories



## Out of The Night

By REX BEACH.

Copyright by Otis L. Wood.

HERE is but one remedy for your complaint," Dr. Suydam settled deeper into his chair. "Marry the girl."

"That is the only piece of your professional advice I ever cared to follow. But how?"

"Any way you can. Use force if necessary. Only marry her. Otherwise I predict all sorts of complications for you—melancholia, brain fog, bankruptcy."

Austin laughed. "Could you write me a prescription?"

"Oh, she'll have you, Bob. You don't seem to realize that you are a good catch."

Austin finished buckling his puttee before rising to his full height. "That doesn't mean anything to her. She doesn't need to make a catch."

"Nonsense! She's just like all the others, only richer and nicer. Go at her as if she were the corn market. She won't be half so hard to corner. You have made a name for yourself and a blamed sight more money than you deserve. You are young—comparatively, I mean."

The elder man stroked his shock of iron gray hair for answer.

"Well, at any rate you are a picturesque personage, even if you can't wear riding clothes."

"Doesn't a man look like the devil in these togs?" Austin posed awkwardly in front of a mirror.

"There's only one person that can look worse in riding clothes than a man. That's a woman."

"What hereby, particularly in a society doctor? But I agree with you. I learned to ride on her account, you know. As a matter of fact, I hate it. The sight of a horse fills me with terror."

Dr. Suydam laughed outright at this. "She tells me you have a very good seat."

"Really?" Austin's eyes gleamed suddenly. "You know I never had a chance to ride when I was a youngster. In fact, I never had an opportunity to do anything except work. That's what makes me so crude and awkward. What I know I have picked up during the last few years."

"You make me tired!" declared the former. "You aren't!"

"I don't skate on waxed floors, nor spill tea, nor clutch at my chauffeur in a tight place, but you know what I mean. I feel lonesome in a dress suit, a butler fills me with gloom, and—well, I'm not one of you, that's all."

"Perhaps that's what makes a hit with Marmion. She's used to the other kind."

"It seems to me that I have always worked," ruminated the former speaker. "I don't remember that I ever had time to play, even after I came to the city. It's a mighty sad thing to rob a boy of his childhood; it makes him a dull, unattractive sort when he grows up. I used to read about people like Miss Moore but I never expected to know them until I met you. Of course that corn deal rather changed things."

"Well, rather!" Suydam agreed with emphasis.

"The result is that when I am with her I forget the few things I have done that are worth while, and I become the farm hand again. I'm naturally rough and angular, and she sees it."

"Oh, you're too sensitive! You have a heart like a girl underneath that saturnine front of yours, and while you look like the Sphinx, you are really as much of kid at heart as I am. Where do you ride today?"

"Riverside Drive."

"What horse is she riding?"

"Pointer."

The doctor shook his head. "Too many automobiles on the Drive. He's a rotten nag for a woman anyhow. His mouth is as tough as a stirrup, and he has the disposition of a tarantula. Why doesn't she stick to the park?"

"You know Marmion."

"Say, wouldn't it be great if Pointer bolted and you saved her life? She couldn't refuse you then."

Austin laughed. "That's not exactly the way I'd care to win her. However, if Pointer bolted I'd probably get rattled and fall off my own horse. I don't like the brutes. Come on! I'm late."

"That's right. Throw me out the minute I get comfortable," grumbled the younger man as he rose.

"Stay here if you prefer. There are



"Because I—I love her, I suppose."

then he went back to the side of his friend, where other hands less unsteady were at work.

"Four lonely old Bob!" he murmured. "Not a soul to care except Marmion and me, and God knows whether she cares or not."

But Robert Austin did not die, although the attending surgeons said he would, said he should, in fact, else all teachings of their science were at fault. He even offended the traditions of surgery by being removed to his own apartments in a week. There Suydam, who had watched him night and day, told him that Miss Moore had a broken shoulder and hence could not come to see him.

"Poor girl!" said Austin faintly. "If I'd known more about horses I might have saved her."

"If you'd known more about horses you'd have let Pointer run," declared his friend. "Nobody but an idiot or a Bob Austin would have taken the chance you did. How is your head?"

"The sick man closed his eyes wearily.

"It hurts all the time. What's the matter with it?"

"We've none of us been able to discover what isn't the matter with it. Why in thunder did you hold on so long?"

"Because I—I love her, I suppose."

"Did you ask her to marry you?" Suydam had been itching to ask the question for days.

"No. I was just getting to it when Pointer bolted. I—I'm slow at such things." There was a moment's pause.

"Doc, what's the matter with my eyes? I can't see very well."

"Don't talk so much," ordered the physician. "You're lucky to be here at all. Thanks to that copper riveted constitution of yours, you'll get well."

But it seemed that the patient was fated to disappoint the predictions of his friend as well as those of the surgeons at Mercy hospital. He did not recover in a manner satisfactory to his medical adviser, and, while he regained the most of his bodily vigor, the injury to his eyes baffled even the most skillful specialists. He was very brave about it, however, and wrung the heart of Dr. Suydam by the uncomplaining fortitude with which he bore examination after examination, operation upon operation. Learned oculists theorized vapidly about optic atrophies, fractures and brain pressure of one sort and another, and meanwhile Robert Austin, in the highest perfection of bodily vigor, in the fullest possession of those faculties that had raised him from an uneducated farm boy to an eminence in the business world, went slowly blind.

The shadows crept in upon him with a deadly, merciless certainty that would have filled the stoutest heart with gloom, and yet he maintained a smiling stoicism that deceived all but his closest associates. To Dr. Suydam, however, the inconceivable progress of the malady was frightfully tragic. He alone knew the man's dominant spirit, his lofty ambitions and his active habits. No one but he knew of the overwhelming love that had come so late and was destined to perish unvoiced, and he raved at the maddening limits of his profession. In Austin's presence he strove to be cheerful and lighten the burden he knew was crushing him, but at other times he bent every energy toward a discovery of some means to check the affliction, some hard more skilled than those he knew of. In time he recognized the futility of his efforts, however, and resigned himself to the worst.

"Why?" questioned Suydam savagely. "Why don't you ask her to marry you, Bob? She couldn't refuse, and God knows you need her!"

"That's just it; she couldn't refuse. This is the sort of thing a fellow must bear alone. She's too young and beautiful and fine to be harnessed up to a worn out old cripple."

"Cripple!" the other choked. "Don't talk like that. Don't be so blamed resigned. It tears my heart out. I—I—why, I believe I feel this more than you do."

Austin turned his face to the speaker with a look of such tragic suffering that the younger man felt silent.

Dr. Suydam had a furious desire to acquaint Marmion Moore with the truth and to tell her, with all the brutal frankness he could muster, of her part in this calamity. But Austin would not hear to it.

"She doesn't dream of the truth," the sick man told him, "and I don't want her to learn. She thinks I am merely weak, and it grieves her terribly to know I haven't recovered. If she really knew it might ruin her life, for she is a girl who feels deeply. I want to spare her that. It's the least I can do."

"I think not. She comes to see me every day."

"Every day?"

"Yes; I'm expecting her soon."

"And she doesn't know?"

Austin shook his head. "I never let her see there's anything the matter with my sight. She drives up with her mother, and I wait for her there in the bay window. It's getting hard for me to distinguish her now, but I recognize the hoof beats. I can tell them

every time.

"But—I don't understand."

"I pretend to be very weak," explained the elder man, with a guilty flush. "I sit in the big chair yonder and my Jap boy waits on her. She is very kind." Austin's voice grew husky.

"I'm sorry to lose sight of the park out yonder, and the trees and the children—they're growing indistinct. I—I like children. I've always wanted some for myself. I've dreamed about it." His thin, haggard face broke into a wistful smile. "I guess that is all over with now."

"I'm glad I can hide my feelings," he said slowly, "for that is what I have to do every instant she is with me. I don't wish to inflict unnecessary pain upon my friends, but don't you suppose I know what it means? It means the destruction of all my fine hopes, the death of all I hold dear in the world. I love my work, for I am—or I was—a success; this means I must give it up. I am strong in body and brain; this robs me of my usefulness. All my life I have prayed that I might some time love a woman. That time has come, but this means I must give her up and be lonely all my days. I must grope my way through the dark with never a ray of light to guide me. Do you know how awful the darkness is?" He wrung his hands.

"I must go hungering through the night with a voiceless love to torture me. Just at the crowning point of my life I've been snuffed out. I must fall behind and see my friends desert me."

"Bob!" cried the other in shocked denial.

"Oh, you know it will come to that. People don't like to feel pity forever tugging at them. I've been a lonely fellow and my friends are numbered. For a time they will come to see me and try to cheer me up; they will even try to include me in their pleasures. Then when it is no longer a new story

(Continued next week.)

(This part of the story was run once before but owing to an error in the make-up we repeat it.)

## OREGON NEWS NOTES

On petition of the county courts of Union and Umatilla counties, the state highway department will co-operate with these counties in making a survey of a road across the Blue mountains between Pendleton and La Grande. The joint county courts have agreed to pay all expenses for the survey.

According to a telegram received from the interstate commerce commission the former is exerting every possible effort to relieve the country-wide car shortage, but is without power to enforce the rules of the American Railway association governing prompt return of cars.

The California superintendent of public instruction is so pleased with the book on rural architecture published by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill, that he has asked for permission to use a number of the plans in a pamphlet being prepared by the California department of education.

A series of lectures and demonstrations covering various phases of agriculture and home economics were given by the extension service of the Oregon Agricultural college in Klamath county. Meetings were held at Plevna October 30, Mount Laki October 31, Merrill November 1 and at Bonanza November 2.

Portland is in second place in the shipbuilding on the Pacific coast. Starting from practically nothing a year ago shipyards and shipbuilding contracts have flowed into the hands of the manufacturers of that city steadily until there are 38 contracts totaling \$21,520,000 reposing in the safes of Portland shipyards.

A call was issued this week by the state public service commission for a conference of county, state and railroad officials in regard to the removal of dangerous crossings. The commission believes that some progress will be made toward reducing the annual loss of life in crossing accidents. This loss, it was stated, has been heavy.

The trading stamp law, providing that money taken in on any kind of a trading stamp scheme in connection with sales is liable to a tax of 5 per cent, once more is operative. Federal Judge Wolverton at Portland has signed a stipulated decree dissolving the injunction he issued in October, 1915, holding up the operation of the law.

With the classification of the Oregon & California railroad grant lands in southern Douglas county practically completed, the cruisers who have been operating there have moved to points west and north of Roseburg. L. L. Sharp, who is in charge of the work, says the work in Douglas county will be completed within six weeks.

The state board of control has authorized Secretary Goodin to inform the California cotton mills that the board would sell the first 15 tons of this year's flax fiber at 26 cents a pound. The California concern has been communicating with the board relative to the purchase of the crop, and it is believed that it will accept the board's offer.

Deer is either plentiful in Grant county this season or the hunters of the county are all good marksmen. Since the season opened many persons have gone in search of venison

## Don't Let Skin Troubles Spread

Trivial blemishes are sometimes the first warning of serious skin diseases. Neglected skin troubles grow. Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment promptly stops the progress of eczema, heals stubborn cases of pimples, acne, blotchy, red and scaly skin. The antiseptic qualities of Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment kill the germ and prevent the spread of the trouble. For cold sores or chapped hands, Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment offers prompt relief. At your Druggist, 50c.

Linn county will pave 200 miles of county highways in five years.

### COME TO the new Tin Shop in Lents

91 and Foster  
STOVEPIPE  
ELBOWS  
STOVE and FURNACE REPAIRING

We make all kinds of chicken supplies, champion Sanitary Fountains, Grit and Shell Boxes, Dry and Wet Mash Hoppers and Troughs.

We will make Anything You Want out of Sheet Metal  
GUTTERING and ROOFING  
Bring in Your Repairing, No Job too Small

A. PEARCE

### The Herald is Only \$1.00 Per Year DO IT NOW!

### PATENTS

obtained through D. Swift & Co., are being quickly bought by Manufacturers.

Send a model or sketches and description of your invention for FREE SEARCH and report on patentability. We get patents or no fee. Write for our free book of 300 needed inventions.

D. SWIFT & CO.  
Patent Lawyers, Estab. 1889.  
307 Seventh St., Washington, D. C.

### Stop The First Cold

A cold does not get well of itself. The process of wearing out a cold wears you out, and your cough becomes serious if neglected. Hacking coughs drain the energy and sap the vitality. For 47 years the happy combination of soothing antiseptic balsams in Dr. King's New Discovery has healed coughs and relieved congestion. Young and old can testify to the effectiveness of Dr. King's New Discovery for coughs and colds. Buy a bottle today at your Druggist, 50c.

To help reduce the high cost of living because of the large number of deer reported killed throughout the county it is said sales of the meat dealers have been cut down materially.

The Oregon branch of the American Red Star society has sent to Senator Chamberlain its formal protest against the sale of American horses and mules to the warring nations. Besides its objection to sending the animals to Europe to slaughter, the animal relief society points out that extensive sale of American horses will interfere with national plans for preparedness.

At a meeting of farmers held at Corvallis at the call of State Grange Master C. E. Spence, resolutions were adopted urging that the state of Oregon acquire lime deposits in the state and operate same by convict labor and furnish the product at cost with reasonable percentage added, to provide for a sinking fund to the farmers of the state to use in reclaiming their lands.

State Engineer John H. Lewis has just completed a trip of inspection over a large part of the proposed highway from Florence on the coast of Lane county to Klamath Falls. The Florence to Klamath Falls highway is being urged as one of the roads to be constructed partially from funds to be received from the federal government under the terms of the Shackelford bill.

Tangible evidence of the prosperity which is growing in Oregon at an amazing rate is furnished in the combined statement of state and national banks and trust companies made public by State Bank Superintendent Sargent. All records for an increase in resources and deposits in a similar length of time were broken in the period beginning June 30 and ending September 12, when the statements were prepared.

Forty timber cruisers and land examiners, assisted by as many compass men, are now actively engaged in classifying the O. & C. grant lands, according to Louis L. Sharp, chief of the field division of the United States general land office.

## At The Churches

### Arleta Baptist Church

9:45 a. m. Bible School.  
11 a. m. Preaching services.  
8:00 p. m. Evening services.  
7:00 p. m. B. Y. P. U. meeting.  
8:00 Thursday Prayer meeting.  
Everybody welcome to any and all of these services.  
W. T. S. Spriggs, pastor.

### Millard Avenue Presbyterian Church

10 a. m. Sabbath School.  
11 a. m. Morning worship.  
7:30 p. m. Y. P. S. C. E.  
7:45 p. m. Evening worship.  
7:30 p. m. Thursday, midweek service.  
8 p. m. Thursday, choir practice.  
Rev. Wm. H. Amos, Pastor.

### St. Peter's Catholic Church

Sundays:  
8 a. m. Low Mass.  
10:30 a. m. High Mass.  
8:30 a. m. Sunday School.  
12 M. Choral rehearsal.  
Week days: Mass at 8 a. m.

### Seventh Day Adventist Church

10 a. m. Saturday Sabbath School.  
11 a. m. Saturday preaching.  
7:30 p. m. Wednesday, Prayer meeting  
7:45 p. m. Sunday preaching.

### Kern Park Christian Church

Corner 69th St. and 46th Ave. S. E.  
10 a. m. Bible School.  
11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. preaching service.  
8:30 p. m. Christian Endeavor.  
7:30 p. m. Thursday, mid-week prayer meeting.  
A cordial welcome to all.  
Rev. G. K. Berry, Pastor.

### St. Pauls Episcopal Church

One block south of Woodmere station. Holy Communion the first Sunday of each month at 8 p. m. No other services that day.

Every other Sunday the regular services will be as usual. Evening Prayer and sermon at 4 p. m. Sunday School meets at 3 p. m. Boatwright, Supt., L. Maffett, Sec. Rev. O. W. Taylor Rector.

### Lents Evangelical Church

Sermon by the Pastor, 11 a. m. and 7:15 p. m.  
Sunday School 9:45 a. m., Albert Fankhauser, Superintendent.  
Y. P. A. 8:45 p. m. Paul Bradford, President.  
Prayer meeting Thursday 8 p. m.  
A cordial welcome to all.  
T. B. Hornschuch, Pastor.

### Lents Friend's Church

9:45 a. m. Bible School, Clifford Barker Superintendent.  
11:00 a. m. Preaching services.  
6:25 p. m. Christian Endeavor.  
7:30 p. m. Preaching Services.  
8:00 p. m. Thursday, mid-week prayer meeting.  
A cordial welcome to all these services.  
John and Nettie Riley, Pastors.

### Lents Baptist Church

Lord's Day, Bible School 9:45 a. m. Morning worship, 11 a. m. Elmo Heights Sunday School, 2:30 p. m. B. Y. P. U., 6:30 p. m. Evening worship, 7:30 p. m. A cordial welcome to these services.  
J. M. Nelson, Pastor.

### Fifth Church of Christ

Fifth Church of Christ, Scientist of Portland, Ore. Myrtle Park Hall, Myrtle Park.  
Services Sunday 11 a. m. Sunday School 9:30 and 11 a. m. Wednesday evening testimonial meeting 8 p. m.

### Lents M. E. Church

Sunday School 9:45 a. m. Preaching 11:00 a. m. Bible Study Class, 5:30 p. m. Epworth League 6:30 p. m. Preaching 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday evening at 7:30. F. M. Jasper, pastor. Residence 5703 83rd St.

### Laurelwood M. E. Church

9:45 a. m. Sunday school.  
11:00 a. m. preaching.  
12:30 a. m. class meeting.  
6:30 p. m. Epworth League.  
7:30 p. m. preaching.  
8:00 p. m. Thursday evening, prayer service.  
Dr. C. R. Carlos, pastor.

### German Evangelical Reformed Church

Corner Woodstock Ave., and 87th St. Rev. W. G. Lienkaemper, pastor. Sunday School 10 a. m. Morning Worship, 11 a. m. Y. P. S. at 7:30 p. m. German School and Catechetical Class Saturday 10 a. m.

### Free Methodist Church

Sunday School, 10 a. m. Preaching, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting, Wednesday 7:30 p. m. All are cordially invited to attend these services.  
Robert H. Clark, pastor.

## LODGE DIRECTORY

Magnolia Camp No. 4026, Royal Neighbors meets regular Second and Fourth Wednesdays of each month at I. O. O. F. Hall. Second Wednesdays social meeting. Neighbors bring your families and friends. Fourth Wednesday, business. All Neighbors requested to come. By order of the Camp.

Toledo votes down a 12 mill special tax levy.

Richland will bond for a \$15,000 water system.