

# The Greatest Moments in a Girl's Life

BY HARRISON FISHER



## IV. THE HONEYMOON

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AND now the honeymoon. And as the Boy and Girl gaze upon massive medieval cathedrals, priceless Michael Angelo sculptures and frescoes, and awe-inspiring ruins that were transcendent splendors when the world was young, they see all these mute evidences of a stupendous past through the eyes of Dan Cupid, faithful and tireless courier of all true lovers on honeymoon tour.

Through the Continent they loiter, avoiding, whenever possible, the places where they feel they might meet friends. For their great desire is to be alone in this world of strangers and this strange world—to share their new happiness with no one—to keep it selfishly all to themselves. And as each new day of living just for each other adds to her joy of life, it seems to the Girl that all the happiness that filled her betrothal days—and that, she knows, was great—was as nothing compared with that which now is hers.

So Venice, beloved of all lovers from dim time, takes on an added charm that she will recall with a thrill when every one of the golden hairs

that now crown her love-lit face are silvered by the alchemist, Time. And she is sure that never was Mediterranean noon so full and soothing, or the Italian skies so soft and ineffably blue, or that anyone ever loved so much before. And when that wonderful, starry night they are leaning on the rail of the Rhine steamer, he with his arm about her, and she asks him, "Do you suppose anyone ever loved so much before since the world began?" and his voice takes on a new-found tenderness as he draws her closer and fervently whispers, "No,"—ah, then—then she knows that once again she is living one of life's greatest moments.

And what of the joy of that slyly stolen kiss as they pass out of sight of others for a moment while rounding the base of a temple column reared to a stately goddess of Greece? And the impulsive holding of hands in broad daylight in Naples' busiest street? And the happy moments in the privacy of their train compartment while moving from capital to capital? And especially that time when the pompous German guard unexpectedly sticks his mustaches in at the carriage window, and

the big boy at her side hastily seizes his Baedeker, and, with marvelous presence of mind, falls to displaying his ignorance of the language and the Fatherland!

Wonderful, golden time, blowing the bud of perfect love to fullest bloom and fragrance!

And, oh, how very, very sure she is that she never could be happier. But even while this thought is filling her heart to overflowing, and causing her eyes to take on added softness whenever she gazes at him, so tenderly, constantly thoughtful of her, they turn their faces towards home, these two—to that holy of holies of married lovers, where she will be enshrined as queen and experience a joy that passeth understanding even as it transcends that which the honeymoon period has brought to her.

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Next week Mr. Fisher will depict the fifth of "The Greatest Moments in a Girl's Life." It is entitled "The First Evening Alone in Their Own Home."