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| the small hours of the summer morning, and when at last, from sheer exhaustion, she fell asleep, her dreams were of rugged mountains, to climb, while her weary sboulders supported a burden that weighed her to the earth. <br> Mrs. Brandon met her in the morning on the stiarway landiling, and, leaning over the balustrade, besought her to stop and talk with her. <br> "Are you, too, in league against me?" asked Ellen, Bercely; "and do you want me to atultify my honor, forfeit my love of truth and make of myself a horrible sacrifice, to please my childish grandfather, and thereby bring some worldly property into the posesssion of that singing, grinning ghoul? I never could endure him !" <br> "My dear Miss D'Arey, I beg you to Histen to me. You are in a frenzy. Calm your nerves, I pray you." <br> "It is very easy for a spectator to sit Idily by and beg a screaming child, en- veloped in flames, to calm her nerves and bear the pain with fortitude, but its quite a different matter when the flames envelope yourself" <br> "Don't be excited, darling; don't." <br> "Mrs. Brandon, if I believed that you were really in league with that old ghoul in trying to ensnare me thus, Fd pitch you headlong down this stairway. pitch you headlong down this stairway: len clutched her flerely by the arm. <br> "No, child, I am not guilty; but if you would only listen to reason, I want to talk to you awhile," <br> Let's go down into the parlor, then. I don't want to kill you, but the temptation is great to hurl you dowa these stairs: If you should attempt to persuade me into such an alliance I mighte" <br> The two entered the parlor, where evidences of the last nights purty were everywhere abundant. Faited boquets lay seattered around; stray handkerchiefs lay upon the chains and sofus ; a white glove hung across the harp; and the old gipsey's gay waist ribbon, soiled with grease and dirt, lay on the carpet. stay here. That gipsey's prevence haunts this room.? |
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