

# REVELATIONS OF A WIFE

The Story of a Honeymoon  
A Wonderful Romance of Married Life Wonderfully Told by ADELE GARRISON

CHAPTER 732.

WHAT IS IT THAT LILLIAN READS IN GRACE DRAPER'S LETTER?

"I would like to—" I whispered, looking up with horrified eyes at Lillian.  
"I know, dear," she interrupted reassuringly; "you know I'm not exactly a stranger to this sort of thing myself."  
The simple words calmed me.

for they brought to my memory as with a flashlight the long, glistening nightmare of Lillian's life with Harry Underwood. My suffering, cruel as it seemed, had been nothing compared to the long-drawn-out burden which had been hers.  
"I am ashamed, Lillian," I whispered, looking up into her steady eyes, "to hear things so ungraciously when I have your example before me."  
"Never mind my example," she said practically. "Finish that letter as soon as you can."  
"There isn't much more of it," I returned, taking up the letter again and preparing to follow her advice.  
"Yours—Grace."  
"Of course," the dashing chirography ran on, "prim little Madge never could resist opening an envelope that had my fist on the outside of it. Of course, she's the original Caesar's wife, and all the

# THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN



rest of that dope, but it's one of my principles never to lead my fellow-sister into temptation, so I have just had a kid I know write your address.  
"Well, old top, I wonder if you know how your girl has missed you. Just, think, I haven't seen you for almost a week. I do hope that mysterious stunt of yours will be over soon, for I'm getting mighty lonesome. I don't like playing around by myself one bit, and, although I have no business flattering you—for the Lord knows you're conceited enough already—yet when I try to talk to any of the other mutts that try to wear out our front steps, I find I've got to slip it to you old boy. There aren't any of the rest of them that come within a thousand miles of you.  
"When are we going to have another jamboree? I am fairly hungry for a dinner of your ordering. You really ought to do that for a living, Dicky-bird, you do it so well. I am at the same old place and for the next three or four days I'll stay close to the telephone from 3 to 4 every afternoon.  
"With all the love there is in the world, and then some, yours till you know what freezes over. GRACE."  
I did not crumple this letter angrily as I had my husband's. My friendliness had passed, and it seemed beneath my womanly dignity to treat the loathsome thing I held in my hand with

anything but calm contempt. So, as I finished reading it, I folded it carefully two or three times and laid it on the table near me.  
Lillian put out her hand and took it.  
"I want to read this thing again," she said. "I didn't have a chance to get the right slant on it, I believe, before."  
I watched her curiously as she pursued the letter. She was evidently making a most careful study of it, for she reread it several portions of it, and a number of times stopped and seemed lost in thought at some passage. Once she looked up at me, her eyes plainly puzzled.  
"Don't you see it?"  
"There's something about this I don't understand, Madge. Of course, I'll admit it looks mighty bad for Dicky on the face of it, but I can't help fancying there's some explanation for it somewhere."  
"I am afraid I don't share your optimism," I replied a bit stiffly.  
Into her eyes flashed a look in which I read infinite pity, but there was mingled with it something which brought the shamed blood to my cheeks. She lowered her eyes to the page before her an instant later, but the memory of that glance remained. It convicted me somehow of a lack of loyalty to my husband.  
For a moment I felt fiercely resentful, and all unworthily there flared up in me the old senseless jealousy of Lillian which had been mine in the first year of my marriage.  
"Why is she so loyal to Dicky?" I asked myself fiercely.  
The next moment my spirit was bowed in humiliation at my mental treachery to the woman who had been such a wonderful friend to me, but I felt eager to have her finish the letter that I might set myself right with her. Of course, I could never confess the mad moment that had been mine, but I could pretend if I did not really feel a hope that Dicky's responsibility for Grace Draper's letter was less than I had imagined.  
As she reached the last page I saw her start, and a look of relief flashed into her eyes.  
"Well, may I be forgiven for a gibbering idiot," she ejaculated. "To think that I didn't see through that clever she-devil before."  
I looked up at Lillian in bewilderment. She had jumped to her feet, and was pacing the floor excitedly.  
"Don't you see it?" she demanded, stopping and facing me, then added penitently: "No, of course you can't."

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## WM. FARNUM

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