OUSE OF SHADOWS

by Ida R. Glasson © 1936 NEA Service, Inc.

CHAPTER XI

though Claire's cry had t him back from a very long e. Pat's eyes fluttered open. ition came back to his face feebly stretched out his hand

e ran to get water which he eagerly. In a short time he was make it up the steps, with Dan strong arm to help. As they out into the open air, a sharp f thunder roared about them, lashes of rain fell, fore runners storm that had threatened for hours.

more in the shelter of the Pat rapidly recovered from his ing experience.

can't down an Irishman with- fight," he told Claire when he d reciting all that had hap- to him. "It was that that kept ing—that and the fact that spook was one swell scrap-

Dallas had been listening close- w he leaned forward. "Then this who pushed you down the shaft tly followed to make sure you dead. When he found you were e trailed along behind to finish He must be the one who shot at Fosdick's lamp."

jerked around in astonishment. were there, Claire?" he asked. s such a nightmare at the last, ught I just imagined someone ard me. But how—"

heard you tapping, Pat — the sound that roused me up in Lyman's room that night. I heard it again in the library." t I was still in circulation that you went up to the cupola," Pat ed her.

d so was Eb," nodded Dallas. since that side of the house to be the one where the noise rs heard, there must be some ction between it and the cellar." e glanced at Dan with a new alon in her eyes. Then she said, d Eb I kept hearing queer things ht, but he only laughed at me. had notions."

u sure that's what he said, " gritted Dan Dallas. He sud- rose from his chair and stalked to her.

by, Dan—" she began with a ttish giggle. "Why, Dan, how you are all of a sudden!"

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answer Dallas stretched out his showing her the official badge d. "Yes, Susie, maybe I am That's my business. When your r found that someone had been ng at the stone foundation of ouse—you know you found it your clothes blew off the line got the law to step in. Figured had got out of his control. Now better come across with what now, or—"

linding flash of lightning crack- hrough the room, followed al- simultaneously by a deafening of thunder. For a moment the ouse seemed to rock on its foun- s. Then, from outside, came r terrific, tearing noise. Every- ushed to the window, just as the twin-topped pine tree swayed tly once or twice, then toppled ground with a roar like a ti- shriek of despair.

a stunned second no one mor- spoke. Only the pounding of ain against the window and the of the crash rumbled away into istance. Then Susie laughed hys- lly and the tension was broken. , I thought I was struck! I—" other voice broke from the ay. "There! I saw him coming e library window!" Bob Steele d weakly and clutched the door upport, his face still pale, but acant look gone from his eyes.

ob!" Pat ran to his side and him into a chair. "Bob, are you ht, old fellow?"

s," answered Steele, "but he's re. I tell you!"

Dallas did not wait, but ed his gun from his pocket and ong the hall and threw open the door. The rest followed. The was empty, but the window was open, letting in a blast of wind- rain which had created havoc usually immaculate room.

* * *

the polished mahogany surface man Fosdick's desk was a litter gs and pine needles, as though d tree, in leaving the house it uarded so long, was determined queath reminders of itself. The velvet draperies at the window sodden ruin.

e gave one look at the place, collapsed into the nearest chair. what would Lyman say if he see it now!" she sobbed. "His oom that he loved. And I prom- always to keep it as it was."

had succeeded in getting the closed. Now he and Pat rush- to the hall to search for the in- . Claire walked over to Susie id a firm hand on her shoulder. sie, tell me, why did Uncle Ly- want this room kept so? He have known that sometime it be changed."

said if it was and I disobeyed he'd find a way to punish me. could do all sorts o' queer, dish things—things he'd learned the heathen he visited when he traveling. That's why he always e home."

t why shouldn't he leave you Susie?" Claire's grip on the s shoulder tightened.

a minute Susie did not answer. she suddenly broke down. "I is wife—his common law wife, I you'd call it. We—we weren't married." She wiped her tears looked up defiantly at Claire. he recognized me all right. why he left me the money and Eb and me was to stay here in ome."

re had sat down suddenly, as her knees had given out from her, while Hannah glared at on-faced housekeeper.

Steele's voice broke the ten- "If I were to tell you, Miss , that I think I know who tried up me off and who came in that just now, what would you

an instant Susie tried to defy then her eyes dropped and she pered. "No, it ain't so! He never to kill no one. He—"

clanging of the doorbell inter- Susie nervously covered her with trembling hands. "He said he'd come back and punish me. It's Lyman Fosdick, I tell you," her voice trailed off into a hoarse whisper. "Lyman Fosdick who's been dead these many years!"

Hannah opened the door. The next minute they could hear her exclaiming in surprise. "Mr. Nick! Here, let me take your wet coat. Why you're soaked through!"

Claire ran to the door, just as Nick Baum came hurrying toward her.

"Claire, dear, are you all right? What's happened? I was delayed in the village, so I decided to come back here for the night. The tree!"

He held both her hands tenderly as she explained, apparently oblivious to anyone else in the room on account of his anxiety for her. Dallas and Pat had returned from their search, and Pat halted in the doorway at the ardent scene before him. The girl turned, with a slight tinge of embarrassment in her manner, and made the necessary introductions.

"I didn't know you had company, Claire, or I wouldn't have intruded," Nick said coldly. "It was just that the storm caught me down the road, and I had to turn back for shelter."

"Of course, Nick. I'd have felt badly if you hadn't," she answered. "Susie can get you something to eat."

As though glad to escape, the housekeeper started for the door. Dan Dallas went after wood, but when Hannah would have followed, Claire motioned her to a chair near the window. Somehow she felt it would be easier to play the role of hostess if Hannah's substantial strength was near. She could not forget at once that scene between Nick and Susie which she had witnessed from the stair window.

She was wondering about it now as she turned back to him and said lightly, "All our friends seem to come here on account of accident, Nick. Mr. Magan and Mr. Steele were going along the road in their car the night I came and heard me almost wreck myself against a log that was across the road. They turned back and brought me here."

"And of course stayed on. How could any man tear himself away, Claire?" smiled Nick Baum easily. "I'm only jealous I didn't beat them to it."

"Righto," remarked Pat. "But we were both rather unavoidably detained. Bob, here, tried to get his head bashed in, and I couldn't very well leave, either." His eyes swept the other man's face. "Haven't I met you before, Mr. Baum?" He asked the question abruptly.

"Afraid not. Sorry." Nick Baum took out a cigaret and offered the package to Pat.

Just then a piercing scream came from the hallway, followed by the crash of a trayful of dishes. Everyone rushed to the door. There stood Susie in the midst of the broken dishes, the remnants of the lunch she had been carrying scattered about the floor, staring with blanched face at the emaciated figure of Eb, coming in from the porch outside. He towered to an uncanny height above her. His hair was matted with mud, as were his clothes, and across his forehead ran a wound which had been dressed with a white bandage, now as soiled and disreputable as the rest of him. His piercing eyes and sharp, beaked nose appeared from under this bandage with the suggestion of an avenging fury.

"You—you better be scared, Susie!" He pointed a thin, shaking finger at the cowering woman. "The vengeance of Heaven is about to catch up with you and your wicked ways!"

(To Be Concluded)

Vida Happenings

VIDA, July 13.—(Special)—Mr. and Mrs. Earl Friedly are making improvements on their place including a new chicken house to be built. The building is to be 70 by 26 feet and will have two stories. It will be large enough to hold 1000 chickens. They are raising 800 pullets this year.

Closing exercises for the daily vacation Bible school were held Friday night. The primary children, taught by Miss Lucile King displayed their hand work which were books illustrating the lessons they had. They also sang songs. The junior group recited some of the memory work, they too sang songs. Their teacher was Miss Geraldine Fotheringham. Rev. George Wilber attended the program and also gave a talk. Those receiving certificates were Glenn and Lelah Hall, William and Mildred Cartner, Azalea and Bertha Daughtry, Barbara Brendel and Corriene and Twila Hall. A Bible was given to the child in the primary class and junior class for the one who had best attendance and did best work.

Buel Beyerlin who is employed at the logging camp at McKenzie Bridge is at home for a week to put up his hay.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

C. A. Swarts, sheriff to L. H. Mulkey—Tracts tp. 17-4 W. $790.

Lester Circle to Harry H. Williams—Tract tp. 18-12 W. $10.

Lester McPherson to George M. Pocel—Lots 15-16, blk. 89, Springfield, $1.

Fred J. Clark et ux to Pauline E. Stephens—Tract in blk 12 Stewart's add. Eugene. $1.

C. C. Bryant receiver to H. L. Edmnds—Part lot 5, blk. 5. Springfield, $400.

C. A. Swarts, sheriff to M. E. Dixson—SE¼ of SE¼ sec. 31, tp. 22-3 W. $100.

James W. Washburne et ux to School Dist. No. 69 10.42 A. in blk. 4, Washburne & Milliorn's 2nd add. Junction City. $1.

Jesse C. Gibson et ux to Winifred J. Mullins et ux—Lot 10, Overlook, $240.

Nettie Watrous to Charles F. Neely et ux—Lot 6, blk. 9, Washburne & Milliorn's add. Junction City. $10.

Mrs. Cecelia J. Lewis to George Ebehalt—Lots 9 and 10, blk. 60, Junction City, $1.

Wine has an appreciable medicinal value when consumed in reasonable amount. Some wines have definite therapeutic use, besides being an aid to digestion.

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