RESORT HOTEL

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CHAPTER V

hile Ann put on her new eve- grew—the cardinal's red—the was in the room, giving fin- touches to the bed. She helped with the fastenings, and sud- the girl turned. "Do you know ing about a young man by the of Jaime Laird?" she asked.

e maid smiled. "Everybody knows at Lake Racine. You'll find a of gossip in the village. He's a lady killer, they say. One of playboys. He spends most of afternoons at the track."

rack!" Ann begged.

he horse room—or whatever call that dark little hole in the where they bet on the races take place all over the country. rigged up with loud speakers, it's just like being at the races, say." The maid smiled. "But not legal. You dive in, and dive They tell me it's the biggest since bootlegging."

e recalled some talk at her of- in the city about the betting controlled by gangster bosses. had invaded the summer re- because men and women on tion are easy marks; they have on their hands, and money to

was sorry to learn this about "Surely he rides or climbs does something in the outdoors? goes to the betting room in afternoon, what does he do in morning?"

e maid said wearily, "He the ticker tape in the stock He's a rich young man."

was thoughtful when she down the stairs to meet Jaime. these doubts vanished when she through the lobby in her eve- gown, a cloak over her arm, cynosure of all feminine eyes. was waiting for her at the

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ce she was seated at his side in sleek roadster, she felt superbly fident and at ease.

ou are a good-looking babe," e said, without conscious flat- Such simplicity in praise was ming to a sophisticated young She felt that he meant it.

e said little during the drive. sat, turned so that she could the cool breeze against her face. was so gloriously happy. When roadster swept up to the portico e Majestic hotel she ran up the and waited in the lobby while e parked the car. She was e that several heads turned to at her.

aime joined her, and they went the bar where everyone at the estic appeared to be at the mo- t.

er escort seemed to know them Some called out familiarly, "Hi, e," and invariably the men ed at Ann. After 10 or 12 of e stares she felt self-conscious, when she sat on a high stool at bar, with a cool drink before her regained her poise.

Have another." Jaime urged rily, and his smile was disarming. order was repeated and then went in to dance.

e thought that she was com- ly happy. She enjoyed the danc- and she knew that to be seen Jaime Laird gave her instant tige. Other young men crowded t asking for dances. She began think that she had scored a suc- on her first night at Lake Ra- and it made her a little giddy. spirits soared. All her vague ors of being alone at the resort vanished.

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t the second intermission she d herself with a young business Lefty Ponds. He tod her that was a customer's man in a bond e in New York.

ith him she walked out on the ace, overlooking the lake. There a water pageant that night and series of brightly lighted floats a gay procession. When the e began and the other young ples had gone back inside, Lefty d Ann to sit out the dance with

ey sat on the stone bench, look- down into the water. Ann flung head back in the breeze, and in the bracing mountain air.

've known you only 10 minutes," said, "but I feel as if I've known a long, long time. The moun- e—"

acation romance," Lefty Ponds ed, smiling. "I may as well tell frankly, I'm married. My wife kids are in Europe. And I'm y about them, too."

Oh!" Ann said. She looked at a moment, then stood up.

ee here!" he said. "You don't a little thing like that, do

e faced him squarely. "No, I t mind. I'm glad you came right and told me. You dance divine-

e stood up. "And I think you divine in this moonlight. Where Jaime been hiding you all this

hiding me? I only arrived to- Ann said coolly. "But what it you were telling me about nection? You played on the foot- team—"

f course. Don't you remember Lefty asked proudly. "I was me who ran 60 yards for that down against Yale. That was years ago."

'm afraid I was rather young Ann said, smiling. "I couldn't ember."

All the girls remember me," y said.

Ann put in. "All the girls you irresistible. What a mar- us man!"

Not at all. But wait—don't go t in."

• • •

e caught her hand and drew her e to him. His kiss brushed her as she turned quickly away. heard a soft laugh and, looking nd, saw that Jaime was stand- there.

hese vacation romances come and furious," he said.

They come fast, but not furious," replied pertly. She had re- her composure.

hame on you, Lefty, for that of thing," Jaime said. "Ann's rl. Naughty, Naughty!"

e took her arm, and they moved toward the dancing salon. When Ann looked back Lefty was still smiling at her. She flushed hotly, and for the first time was a little angry with him. She was angry with herself, too.

"Lefty is all right," Jaime said carelessly, as they started dancing again. "He can't forget that he was a Princeton quarterback. Most football players are simply dumb."

He looked down at her and added, "But our little lamb isn't vexed? Say, wipe off your pretty face. Come on, let's go to the bar."

"I think I'd rather go back to the hotel," Ann said. "Please."

"Just as you say, duchess!" Jaime's gesture of gallantry was elaborate, his bow sweeping. "Let's burn up a few of the mountain roads. I've got the speed bug. You won't turn me down if I take you for a little spin in the roadster?"

He was charming, as he stood there, looking down at her.

"I'd love to," Ann told him. "This mountain air is bracing."

Jaime called his car.

(To Be Continued)

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