

Izola Forrester Copyright, 1901, by Izola Forrester

"Are you cold?" He asked the question politely, but not solicitously. Each time he had walked to the top of the little sand dune and back again to the lone figure sitting in silent dignity among the straggly sword grasses and sand cherries he had asked the same

"Thanks; not at all." said Jennnette without removing her gaze from the blot of ink splashed on the lake's sunset stained breast far to the westward that represented Macatawa island. "Are you hungry ?"

The other times he had gone away to his solitary lookout point when she had uttered that frozen negative. Now he paused and took another look at her. She was cold. She must be cold in that lacy, foolish, exquisite excuse for a rational garment which she wore. It was nearly 7, and there had sprung up



SHE GLANCED UP INDIGNANTLY.

a fresh, cool lake breeze since the sun shot its last crimson shaft above the pines of the mainland shore. He was cold with his coat and sweater on. "If only she would give some sign of weakening," he thought and then caught a glimpse of her profile-the uplifted rebellious chin and the short upper lip, the straight little nose, with its delicious tendency to tilt heavenward. and the fluttering wisps of straying curls that the wind tossed where it pleased-and his foot ground an unoffending clump of aspiring clover in the

sand. If she had never kissed him, it would have been another matter, but she

had-not once; he could distinctly re-

kissed him in a cousinly fashion-

friendly, mild little shies at his chin

or eyebrow-when he had a birthday

him with favors varying from sticky

caramel kisses to the eyes of her loved

doll when the latter went the way of

her kind. He looked at his watch. The

boat could not possibly reach them

from Macatawa before another half

hour. It would make a landing on its

way around the lake to gather up the

It was a last appeal. Jeannette

plucked a spray of sand cherries and

began to eat them stoically. He re-

membered other girls with red hair

who had the same pleasant, madden-

ing little ways at critical moments. It

must be in the color, or was it just

She glanced up indignantly when he

knelt beside her and wrapped his coat

around her and then laughed when she

"I like you when you're like that,

"Oh, just brace up and boss me and

forget you're only a boy! Can you see

"No; I'm not a boy. Does Kerwin

"Not very much; sometimes. He's

"Isn't that pleasant?" After a pause.

He was stretched out on the sand at

her feet, all his heart in his eyes as

eyes that had not yet lost the frank.

questioning directness of boyhood.

Jeannette gazed steadily at the red

light that had suddenly flickered to

life in the lighthouse at Osbourne

"Pretty well," she said thoughtfully.

"You are so disagreeable at times

"Better than you do me?"

"Do you like him so awfully well?"

cottagers for the hop.

"Are you hungry?"

saw the look on his face.

Tom," she said.

the boat yet?"

boss you?

never rude.'

point.

"Like what?"

pure-

most amiable men I have ever met." "I bate amlable men."

"How you must love yourself, dear!" "Don't call me dear. When we fight, you always ring in the cousin racket and 'dear boy' me. I'm not a boy." "Don't growl so. You are a boy, six feet one and a hundred and sixty pounds of good, solid, sweet tempered lovable boy. I wonder if Mr. Kerwin will be worried about me and come or the boat. He has the first waltz."

"You always give him waltzes. Al 1 get are two steps. What fellow has any chance in a two step?"

"Two steps were made for you, Tom, Your graceful prance is heavenly. 1 feel as if I had been at a football game when you slow up and deposit my remains on a friendly chair. But one doesn't waltz as if one were wound up like a toy engine to scoot from wall to wall in a frenzy. Mr. Kerwin learned in Europe, he says."

"If I could think that you only did it to torment me, the way it was with Bob and Cliff Maxon and the rest, I wouldn't care a hang. But some way he seems different. He's forty-five"-"Thirty-six."

"It's all the same, and I know Uncle Nick smells cold cash or he'd never throw you at his head the way he does.'

"He doesn't throw me at his head," came the hot denial. "Eleanor is always with us."

"Oh, well. Eleanor, she's most thirty"-

"Twenty-five last April."

"I don't care. She wouldn't look at Kerwin. If he comes on the boat, I'll throw him in the lake." "You sweet child! Tom, dear, do you

know' "No; I don't know," he retorted bit-

terly. "I don't know anything, Jeanie, except that I love you, and you don't care a rap."

There was silence. After a few minutes she stole a glance at him. His head was lying on his arms, his face hidden. She smiled a little, tremulous, fearful smile. What a boy he was! A man would have known, taken it for granted anyway. But all he did was avow his cause and lay down heart and sword before the battle had even begun.

Far off on the distant marsh some night fowl sent a quavering, anxious ery across the lake, and the water lapped lazily among the reeds down near the rickety old pier.

She shivered and looked away from the strong, athletic young figure lying among the sword grasses at her feet. If he had not been going away that night! How long half a year seems when one must be alone! But he was such a boy! She turned and laid her hand on his shoulder.

"Tom, don't do that," she said quickly, a little frown contracting her eyebrows. "I didn't know. You always acted as if it were half fun. Don't you know you did? And Bob and Cliff weren't in earnest. Boys aren't gener-They fall in love because-oh, ally. just because! And I thought you were the same. I didn't think you would



1. The India Rubber Faced Man From the Circus: "I reckon this is a dead snap for me. There was never a barber born yet who could get his razor into the crevices of my countenance."



2. And he sorter smiled a cunning smile as he sauntered in and requested a shave.





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want it to be forever, the way mer do.'

No response from the prostrate figmember several times. And they were ure. Her hand wandered to his hair not cousinly kisses either. Eleanor It was thick, wavy hair. She had loved to pull it back in the old days when she had been angry with him. One could get such a splendid grip.

or left for college, but Jean had been "You never said you really wanted different-different ever since he could me, you know, Tom." The words did remember, when, a thin, big eyed, red not come as easily now. "Mr. Kerwin haired young creature of six, she had proposed, really and truly, in the regproclaimed her love for him from the ulation way, like a man. You never housetops and graciously showered even proposed."

The figure sat bolt upright. "What did he say?" "The boat has left the island." "How did he do it?" "They'll be here pretty soon." "Jean, look at me. Don't laugh." After awhile, when they could hear the slow, faint whistle of the boat and walked down to the pler together swinging hands, he asked suddenly: "Did I do it right?" "Lovely!"

"You dear! Better than Kerwin?" "Ask Eleanor!" she said.

#### A Barber and Poet.

Jasmin, the Gascon poet, who was also a barber, had many a strange adventure arising from the incongruity of his two professions.

At one time when he was visiting the mayor of a French town and had promised to give an informal recitation. to the townspeople the hour arrived. and his host did not appear. Several important personages assembled to accompany them to the hall, but the mayor remained invisible, busied with his toilet.

Finally, fearing the impatience of his guests, he opened the door of his chamber to apologize and showed his face covered with lather.

"Just a moment," said he; "I am finishing my shaving."

"Oh." said Jasmin, "let me help he looked at her. They were good you."

He at once doffed his coat, gave a finishing touch to the razor and shaved the mayor in a twinkling with what he called his "hand of velvet." In a few minutes he was in the hall receiving tumultuous applause for his splendid recitations.

President Earle of the League of Tom, that it isn't fair to judge," she American Wheelmen says that the conreturned generously. "You keep one vict labor of the country could build so in doubt, you know, and Mr. Kerwin 18,000 miles of road a year and should is always the same. He is one of the be used for that purpose.



3. But when the barber placed him in his patent chair, which pinioned his arms, and tied his lips tightly on to the business end of a bicycle inflator-



4. -and inflated him up to such a point that there were no wrinkles vis-Ible on his otherwise corrugated face-well, he began to see there were methods in "artistic barbery" he had not hitherto dreamed of.



Siender Individual: "Did I understand you to say, sir, that you get out at the next station?"

Stout Party: "Yes, you did, sir. And what of it?" Slender Individual (with great relief): "Ah-h-h1 The train'll be gettin faster after that."