

THE LUXURY HUSBAND

Chapter 9
THE SHEEP GOSSIPS

It was all over the ship the next morning that Barbara Landon had married the saxophonist in the orchestra. It began as a whispered rumor which grew in force, as the facts became known, until it dominated the conversation everywhere on the decks, in the lounge; it even penetrated to the kitchens.

Cora Trenton-Jones found herself the center of an eager, questioning mob who invaded her stateroom before she even had time to dress herself. All through the morning they came, in a never-ending stream, Barbara herself being the first.

Mrs. Trenton-Jones had returned to the ship very late the preceding night, tired out, her head dizzy with the names of various hotels to which Henderson had dragged her. Having given her steward instructions not to call her in the morning she still was asleep when Barbara stole into her cabin and hugged her awake.

"Trenty darling," she murmured, "I'm so happy."

Mrs. Trenton-Jones' eyelids fluttered faintly, then she tried to resume her sleep, but, presently, raised herself.

"Is that any excuse for waking me out of a perfectly good sleep?" she demanded. Then, with the memory of yesterday unpleasantly vivid in her mind, she added crossly, "Anyhow, you're no right to be happy."

Barbara opened her eyes and purred innocently, "But why?"

And Cora Trenton-Jones launched into a graphic and realistic description of all she had suffered the previous day. Barbara was rocking herself to and fro with laughter.

The older woman regarded her in a hurt and angry silence.

"You might tell me what you were doing yesterday."

"I was getting married," Barbara announced calmly.

"Getting married? ... For the Lord's sake whom have you married?"

"Ray Lowther."

"Ray ... whom? Never heard of him."

"You've heard him anyhow, Trenty—he's the saxophonist in the orchestra."

"The saxophonist? ... weakly, 'you're, you're joking Barbara ...'"

"Honest, I'm not—look here ... and she held out her slim platinum wedding band.

At that Cora Trenton-Jones collapsed.

"We'd have invited you to the ceremony if we'd thought you'd be so pleased about it!" Barbara murmured sweetly. "Wish me luck, old dear, I'm off now to see to my packing. We're getting off at Southampton."

She walked towards the door and, with her hand on the knob, added, "You better go on with this tour, Trenty. You're a sweet thing, but hardly necessary on a honeymoon."

And with that she was gone before Cora Trenton-Jones had recovered sufficiently to utter a word.

Ralph Henderson was the next to disturb her. He arrived simultaneously with the steward, bearing an immense box of candy. Mrs. Trenton-Jones considered that she needed it to help her withstand the shock of Barbara's announcement.

She knew that she would be blamed for Barbara's latest escapade; the girl's relatives would be furious, asking how she could have let such a thing happen under her very nose.

She felt uncomfortable aware

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Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

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2. SOHO
3. APSE
4. SELL
5. TEA
6. OAT
7. AWAY
8. SEASHORE
9. RAM
10. SERVER
11. PUTTEE
12. HELP
13. AFIRE
14. DRY
15. RIO
16. SOONER
17. YEARS
18. AROSE
19. ALSO
20. BARREN
21. RETRACTS
22. SOIL
23. OWE
24. POLE
25. PUTS
26. BED
27. SNET
28. ASEA

DOWN

1. HORSE
2. LION
3. ACCOMPANYING
4. LIGHT
5. NITS
6. NORTH
7. STATE
8. METAL
9. JURY
10. STRAW
11. HORSE
12. LION
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14. LIGHT
15. NITS
16. NORTH
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18. METAL
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94. LIGHT
95. NITS
96. NORTH
97. STATE
98. METAL
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100. STRAW

LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

G-BYE, SANDY - GOTTA GO TO SCHOOL NOW - SO YOU STAY HERE AN' BE COMPY FOR MRS. TWINKLE TILL I GET HOME - SEE?

ARF!

GEE-IT SURE IS SWELL I TO GET A CHANCE TO GO TO SCHOOL LIKE OTHER KIDS - I'D FEEL LOTS BETTER, THOUGH IF I HAD SOME SORT OF A JOB AFTER SCHOOL AS I COULD SORTA HELP OUT AT HOME - MRS. TWINKLE HAS IT TUGH ENOUGH WITHOUT S'PORTIN' ME TOO -

OH - GOOD MORNIN', JOHN -

HELLO, ANNIE - WELL, IT'S ALL FIXED UP - YOU'RE TO START IN AT THE BANK TO-MORROW AFTER SCHOOL - THERE'LL BE ERRANDS TO RUN AND PLENTY TO KEEP YOU BUSY -

GEE - A JOB AT TH' BANK - THAT GUN JOHN SURE IS A FAST WORKER - ONLY MONDAY I TOLD HIM I'D LIKE A JOB AN' ALREADY HE'S GOT ONE FOR ME - WONDER WHAT OLD JOHN HAD TO SAY -

REG'LAR FELLERS

WANDA SELL THAT KNIFE?

AW-RIGHT! I'LL SELL IT FOR TEN CENTS!

I'LL OWE YOU THE TEN CENTS!

NOSIR! IT HASTA BE CASH!

HEY JIMMIE! Y'HAVENT GOT TEN CENTS HAVE YA?

THAT'S A FUNNY ONE! WHO TOLDJA?

TAILSPIN TOMMY

Tommy

HAS BEEN INVITED TO SIT IN ON A HIGH CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT RAMON AND HIS SECRETARY OF WAR, RINALDO. SOMEBODY'S TIPPING OFF WAR SECRETS TO THE ENEMY! THE PRESIDENT BELIEVES IN TOMMY - BUT RINALDO IS A SUSPICIOUS BIGO AND SUSPECTS EVERYBODY. THE CONFERENCE HAS LASTED TWO HOURS - IT IS NOW ELEVEN O'CLOCK AT NIGHT!

I WONDER WHAT THE IDEA IS - ASKING ME TO SIT OUT HERE - GOOD NIGHT! ALL THIS JABBER - JABBER ABOUT SPIES GIVES ME THE "WILLIES!"

MY ADVICE IS HE WILL BEAR WATCHING, YOUR EXCELLENCY - REMEMBER THIS - HE KNEW ABOUT THE REBELLION BEFORE WE DID!

TRUE - BUT HE WARNED US! AND IS AIDING OUR CAUSE ONLY BECAUSE HE HAS REASON TO BELIEVE HIS AMERICANO SWEETHEART - WHAT IS THAT?!

ANGELS ABOVE! WHAT IS THAT?!

ANGELS YOUR NECKTIE! MY GUESS IS IT'S A SQUADRON OF MAMMOTH BOMBERS!

A RAID! WE MUST FLY!

DUMB DORA

IMMANUEL GAVE ME UNTIL SIX THIS EVENING TO DECIDE WHETHER I MARRY HIM OR NOT...

AND IF YOU REFUSE TO MARRY HIM HE'S GOING TO RUN THAT KNIFE OF HIS THROUGH MY ADAMS APPLE.

I'LL MARRY HIM, ROD - TO SAVE YOU - I'M YOUR FRIEND TO THE END

NO DORA - I CANT LET YOU SACRIFICE YOURSELF LIKE THAT - SAY NO AND LET THE BRUTE KILL ME

THE HANDS OF THE CLOCK ARE JUST SPINNING - IT'S TWO-THIRTY ALREADY

ONLY THREE AND ONE HALF MORE HOURS FOR ME TO LIVE...

WE STILL HAVE TIME FOR A MATINEE!

BRINGING UP FATHER

THERE'S A MAN OUTSIDE WITH A SATCHEL THAT WANTS TO SEE YOU.

BRING IN THE SATCHEL

MR. JIGGS I HAVE A BILL HERE FOR YOUR WIFE.

WHAT'S IT FOR?

SINGING! I AM HER INSTRUCTOR.

MUTT AND JEFF

THIS IS AWFUL! THAT NEW NEIGHBOR RUNS HIS RADIO EVERY NIGHT UNTIL EVERY STATION IN THE COUNTRY SIGNS OFF - WITH HIS WINDOW OPEN AND THE LOUD SPEAKER GOING - IT'S UTTERLY IMPOSSIBLE TO SLEEP!

PARDON ME, NEIGHBOR, BUT IT'S ONE A.M.! DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A BIT LATE TO RUN YOUR RADIO? PLEASE BE REASONABLE, MY FRIEND! I CAN'T SLEEP WITH THAT NOISE GOING ON! PLEASE!

AW, GO SIT ON A TACK! THIS IS A FREE COUNTRY!

YER UNDER ARREST FOR DRIVING PAST THE SIGNAL LIGHT, COME WITH ME!

JUDGE, THIS MAN DROVE PAST A SIGNAL LIGHT AND-

FOR THE LOVE OF MIKE, IT'S MY NEIGHBOR!

SO, IT'S YOU! 20 YEARS! PLAY THAT ON YOUR RADIO, KID!

CASEY, I'M GONNA SPEAK TO THE CHIEF AND GET YOU PROMOTED FOR ARRESTING THIS EGG!

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