The Story of the Fabulous Delaneys

The Parasites

By DAPHNE du MAURIER

(Author of "Rebecca" and "The King's General".)

SYNOPSIS: Matters have reached a point of crisis in the house of Sir Charles Wyndham and his wife Maria. Wyndham has called all three of the talented Delaneys "parasites" — Maria, the actress, Niall, the composer, and Celia, who might have been an artist had she not given up her youth to nursing her famous old father. Now at Sunday dinner it becomes painfully apparent that Wyndham will no longer tolerate Maria's neglect of him, nor her affection for Niall, who although brought up with Maria as a brother, is not related by blood. Now go on with the story—

CHAPTER 22

In the grim silence Charles approaches the sideboard. He poured the claret. Celia and Polly both refused; Polly with her usual breathless laugh, when offered alcohol: "Oh no, Mr. Wyndham, not for me. I have to face tomorrow."

"So have we all," said Charles. That was a poser. That was a hit below the belt. Even Mary Rose, her eyes a misty blue and full of dreams, registered interrogation.

It was at this moment that the announced in Grand Hotel choseto tell his listeners that the orchestra would play a selection from the dance tunes of Niall Delaney. Polly looked up with a bright smile. "Oh, how nice," she said. "Ah, this is my favourite."

Niall would have liked to get up and switch the wireless off; the business was lacking in taste. It was as though he had deliberately told the officials of Grand Hotel to play these songs just now, as an insult to Charles. A modern flinging of the gauntlet. I can do this. What can you do?

"Yes," said Charles slowly, "that is my favorite too."

Which, thought Niall, is the sort of thing that makes me want to get up from the table, and go out of the room, and drive to the sea and find my leaky boat and sail it to perdition. Because the look in Charles's eyes as he said that is a thing I can never forget.

Here was the chance, thought Celia, to make everything all right. Bring Charles into the fold. It was the fault of each one of us, shutting Charles outside. Maria had never realized it. If the moment could be held, simply by the bond of Niall's music, everything might yet come clear. But Polly blundered in.

"The boy was so funny on the walk this afternoon," she said. "He asked me, 'Polly, when we are grown-up, shall we be clever and famous like Mummy and Uncle Niall?' 'That depends on you,' I told him. 'Besides,'" continued Polly, "'you don't just become clever and famous by sitting back and doing nothing. Mummy would like to spend more time in her home, with you children and Daddy, but Mummy has to work in London, at the theater.' And do you know what he said to that? He said, 'She does not have to work. She could just be our mummy.' It was really rather sweet." She sipped her glass of water, smiling at Maria.

I can't make up my mind thought Niall, whether Polly is a criminal, cunning and dangerous, or just so bloody stupid that it would be kindness to wring her neck and spare the world more pain.

"I think," said Celia bravely, "that the thing to tell the children is this. Being famous is awfully unimportant. What is important is to like the thing you do. Whether it is acting, or composing, or gardening, or being a plumber, you must like the thing you do."

"Does that apply to marriage?" enquired Charles.

Celia had blundered worse than Polly. Niall saw her bite her lip.

"I don't thing Polly was discussing marriage, Charles," she said.

"No," said Charles, "but my son and heir obviously was."

Charles poured out for himself the last of the claret. "Well?" he said slowly. "And what conclusion did you reach this afternoon?" Nobody answered. Polly glanced up surprised.

"You've had half a day," he continued, "to consider quietly whether I was right or wrong."

The bravest of the three took up the challenge.

"Right about what?" asked Maria.

"Right," said Charles, "about your being parasites."

"I don't know that we discussed it," said Maria, "we talked of so many other things. We always do."

"We had a curious afternoon," said Niall; "we all three of us plunged back into the past. We remembered lots of things we thought forgotten. Or, if not forgotten, buried."

"Indeed," said Charles, "and what value did you extract from your dead past?"

Polly, who had glanced from one to the other of us with a bright yet bewildered look, snatched at her chance to join the conversation.

"We all hope Mummy will go forward to another big success when her present play comes off," she said; "that is what Mummy hopes too."

"Success," said Niall, "really did not come into our discussion. Like fame, as Celia said just now, it's so very unimportant."

"What, then, in your opinion, does matter?" enquired Charles.

"I don't know," said Niall, "and I never have. I wish I did."

"I will tell you what matters," said Charles; "it matters to have principles, to have standards, to have ideals. It matters to have faith, and a belief. It matters very much if you love a woman, and a woman loves a man, and you marry, and you breed children, and you share each other's lives, and you grow old together, and you lie buried in the same grave. It matters even more if the man loves the wrong woman, and the woman loves the wrong man, and the two come from different worlds that just will not mix, that won't turn into one world, belonging to both. Because when that happens, a man goes adrift and is lost, and his ideals and illusions and traditions get lost too. There is nothing much to live for any more. So he chucks his hand in. He says to himself: Why bother? The woman I love does not believe in any of the things I believe in. Therefore, I may as well stop believing in them too. I also can lower standards."

"Quite frankly," said Maria, "I don't know what you mean, Charles."

"I mean," said Charles, "that we have all come to a parting of the ways."

"Have you had too much claret?" asked Maria.

"No," said Charles, "I have only had enough to loosen the tongue, which happens to have been tied too many years. This afternoon, while you three were raking up the past, I came to a decision. Quite a simple one. People take it every day. But as it will affect the three of you, you may as well be told."

"I came to a decision too," said Niall swiftly; "we possibly all three did, in our various ways. You asked me just now what mattered in life. I lied when I said I did not know. It matters to write good music. I have never done it yet. I want to go away and try. So whatever you were deciding you can safely count me out of your calculations. I shan't be here, Charles. It will mean one parasite the less."

Charles did not answer. He pulled slowly at his cigar.

"I feel very apologetic," said Celia, "for coming so often at weekends. Somehow, after Pappy died, I began to look upon it as my home. Especially in the war. And being with the children. But now I'm really settling down into those rooms at Hampstead. I'm going to do what I've never had time to do before. I'm going to write. I'm going to draw."

Charles went on gazing at the silver candlesticks.

"Tomorrow," said Charles, "I propose doing the business through the right channels. Getting a lawyer to write you a proper letter."

A letter?" said Maria. "A letter about what?"

"A letter asking you to give me a divorce," said Charles.

"Divorce you?" said Maria. "What do you mean, divorce you? I don't want to divorce you. I love you very much."

"That is too bad, isn't it?" said Charles. "You should have told me so more often. No use telling me now, when it does not interest me to listen. You see, I happen to be in love with someone else."

"No," said Maria. "No . . ."

She got up and stood looking at Charles, with her hands clasped. The part of an injured wife was one she had never played.

(To Be Continued)

RADIO PROGRAMS

(Below Schedules are based on Daylight Saving Time)

THURSDAY—P.M.

	KGW 620 NBC	KOIN 970 CBS	KEX 1190 ABC	KSLM 1300 MBC	KOCO 1490 Kc
5:00	Mr. Buttons	News	Jimmy Wakely	Straight Arrow	12th St. Hour
5:15	Foster. News	Frank Gong	Jimmy Wakely	Straight Arrow	12th St. Hour
5:30	Songs of Times	News	Superman	Sky King	Bing Crosby
5:45	Elmer Peterson	News	Superman	Sky King	Sports
6:00	Dragnet	Suspense	West'n H'dlines	Gab. Heater	Candle Light & Silver
6:15	Dragnet	Suspense	Home Edition	N. W. News	News
6:30	Dr Kildare	Crime Photographer	Armstrong, SBI	Answer Man	Tune Time
6:45	Dr Kildare		Armstrong, SBI	Sam Hayes	
7:00	Cass Daley	Playhouse	Screen Guild	Your Child	Twilight Song
7:15	Cass Daley	Playhouse	Screen Guild	Songs of Times	Music. Jackpot
7:30	Charles Boyer	Columbia Feat.	Screen Guild	Mysterious Traveler	Guest Star
7:45	Charles Boyer	Columbia Feat.	Screen Guild		F'ball Prophet
8:00	Man's Family	Lowell Thomas	Amateur Hour	Clyde Beatty	Track 1490
8:15	World News	Jack Smith	Amateur Hour	Clyde Beatty	Track 1490
8:30	Aldrich Family	Mr. Keen	Amateur Hour	Behind Story	Track 1490
8:45	Aldrich Family	Mr. Keen	B. Montgomery	David Rose	Track 1490
9:00	Father Knows Best	FBI-Peace, War	Football Rally	Glen Hardy	Track 1490
9:15		FBI-Peace, War	Football Rally	Fulton Lewis	Track 1490
9:30	Drake Hotel	Beulah	Ralph Flanagan	Ray Bloch	News
9:45	Buskin Trio	Club 15	Ralph Flanagan	Ray Bloch	Piano Patterns
10:00	Reporter	5 Star Final	Final Edition	News	Night Song
10:15	Mindy Carson	You & World	Intermezzo	Mutual News	Night Song
10:30	Sports Pr Final	Orchestra	Concert Hour	Music	Music U Want
10:45	Current. Choice	Orchestra	Concert Hour	Music	Music U Want
11:00	News	Organ Music	Concert Hour	Net News	Nocturne
11:15	Wax Museum	Organ	Concert Hour	United Nations	Nocturne
11:30	Wax Museum	Treasury Band	Memos	Midnite Melod.	Nocturne
11:45	Wax Museum	Treasury Band	Memos	Midnite Melod.	Nocturne
12:00	Sign Off	Silent	Xtra Hour	Sign Off	Sign Off

FM Mag.: KOIN 10 1.1, 6 a.m. to 12 p.m. KEX 92.7, 3 to 9 p.m.

FRIDAY—6 A.M. TO 4:45 P.M.

6:00	Hodge Podge	News	Farm News	News Summary	
6:15	Hodge Podge	KOIN Klock	Keep Smiling	Timekeeper	
6:30	Farm Time	KOIN Klock	Keep Smiling	March Time	West'n Melody
6:45	Farm Time	KOIN Klock	Keep Smiling	News	West'n Melody
7:00	Old Songs	KOIN Klock	First Edition	Hemingway	Andy Parker
7:15	Old Songs	News	M. Agronsky	Brkfst. Gang	KOCO Klock
7:30	Kneass News	News	Bob Haven	Music	News
7:45	Sam Hayes	H. Rabbitt	Bob Garred	Top Trades	KOCO Klock
8:00	Family Show	Consumer News	Breakfast Club	Cecil Brown,	Mem'bis Music
8:15	Family Show	News	Breakfast Club	Family Altar	Mem'bis Music
8:30	Jack Berch	Grand Slam	Breakfast Club	Bible Institute	Hawai' Echoes
8:45	Garroway	Rosemary	Breakfast Club	Bible Institute	Fiesta Time
9:00	Scandia	Wendy Warren	9 a.m. Edition	Barg'n Counter	Time for Mel'dy
9:15	Second Cup	Aunt Jenny	Stars of Today	Garden Guide	Time for Mel'dy
9:30	Second Cup	Helen Trent	Quick as Flash	Pastor's Call	Stars Sing
9:45	News	Our Gal Sunday	Quick as Flash	Waltz Time	Myrt & Marge
10:00	Tune Test	Big Sister	Luncheon Club	Glen Hardy	Mac's Melodies
10:15	Tune Test	Ma Perkins	Luncheon Club	Telle Test	Mac's Melodies
10:30	Hostess House Party	Dr. Malone	Mr True Story	Russ Morgan	Mac's Melodies
10:45		Guiding Light	My True Story	Tell Neighbor	Reading Prevue
11:00	Double Nothing	2nd Mrs. Burt's	Betty Crocker	Ladies Fair	Mac's Melodies
11:15	Double Nothing	Perry Mason	Recipes	Ladies Fair	Mac's Melodies
11:30	Like Millionaire	Norah Drake	N'westerners	Queen for Day	Mac's Melodies
11:45	Like Millionaire	Brighter Day	N'westerners	Queen for Day	Mac's Melodies
12:00	Foster News	News	Bankhaze Talks	Top Trades	H'llywood Music
12:15	Road of Life	Come Get It	Noon Edition	N W News	H'llywood Music
12:30	F Y'ng's Fam	House Party	Mod. Romances	Gay 90's	Headline News
12:45	Right to Hap.	House Party	Mod. Romances	Homerun Harm.	Philosopher
1:00	Backstage Wife	From Nowhere	Music Box	Baseball	Mazie Melody
1:15	Stella Dallas	Hilltop House	John Kennedy	Baseball	Mazie Melody
1:30	Lorenzo Jones	Strike It Rich	Ray West	Baseball	Mazie Melody
1:45	Y'ng Wid. Br'n	Strike It Rich	Ray West	Baseball	Mazie Melody
2:00	Wh. G Marries	Kirkham News	Hollywood	Baseball	Mazie Melody
2:15	Pcr. Faces Life	Kirkham News	Welcome to Hollywood	Baseball	Mazie Melody
2:30	Just Plain Bill	St. Louis Nat.	Chance of a Lifetime	Baseball	Mazie Melody
2:45	Front Pg. Fa'ft	Tunefully Yo'rs		Baseball	Mazie Melody
3:00	Wele. Travelers	Art Kirkham	Hollywood	Baseball	Mazie Melody
3:15	Wele. Travelers	Arthur Godfrey	Hannibal Cobb	Baseball	Mazie Melody
3:30	Aunt Mary	Arthur Godfrey	Barney Keep	Box Scores	Mazie Melody
3:45	We Love, Learn	Arthur Godfrey	Barney Keep	Bing Sings	Mazie Melody
4:00	Wom. Secret	Arthur Godfrey	Dr Crane	Fulton Lewis	Mazel Melody
4:15	Life Beautiful	Arthur Godfrey	Squirrel Cage	Hemingway	Mazel Melody
4:30	Dr. Paul	Curt Massey	Squirrel Cage	N W News	Mazel Melody
4:45	Mr. Buttons	Little Show	Firefighters	Sam Hayes	Mazel Melody

DIAL LISTING, KOAC 550

KOAC Thursday P.M. — 5:00, Children's Theater; 5:15, On the Upbeat; 5:30, 550 Sports Club; 6, News; 6:15, Dinner Melodies; 6:30, 'Round the Campfire; 7:00, Headlines in Chemistry; 7:15, Farm Hour; 8:00, Flying Time; 8:15, Artistry in Classics; 8:30, Vets' News; 8:45, News & Weather; 9:00, Music That Endures; 9:45, Meditations; 10:00, Research Adventure; 10:15, Serenade; 10:45, News; 11:00, Sign Off.

KOAC Friday A.M.—10:00, News and Weather; 10:15, Especially for Women; 11:00, Concert Hall; 12:00, News; 12:15, Noon Farm Hour; 1:00, Ride 'Em Cowboy; 1:15, Variety Time; 1:30, Melody Lane; 2:00, Especially for Listening; 2:30, Memory Book of Music; 2:45, UNESCO; 3:00, News; 3:15, Music of Masters; 4:00, Oregon Reporter; 4:15, Favorite Hymns; 4:30, Proudly We Hail.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Metalliferous rock
4. Postal certificate
9. Aged
12. Fish's organ of motion
13. Natural sweet
14. Beam
15. Self-complacent stupidity
17. Move smoothly
19. Sea eagle
20. Self-satisfied
21. Ire
22. Period from sunrise to sunset
26. Type square
27. Disease of rye
29. Grandson of Adam
30. Light carriage
32. More rational
34. Hold a session
35. 160 square rods of land
37. Pattern
39. Concerning
40. He who swam the Hellespont
42. Metal-bearing veins
44. High pointed hills
45. Fruit
46. Porcelain
48. Most ignoble
51. Own: Scotch
52. Insects
54. Sunken fence
55. Wooden pin
56. Strained
57. Angry

DOWN

1. Away
2. Long narrow inlet
3. Come in
4. Black eyes: slang
5. Carry
6. Indefinite one
7. Myself
8. Dwarf
9. Beginnings
10. Stripling
11. Color
16. Press
18. Old musical instrument
20. Glutted
21. Lawful
22. Priest's vestment
23. Giver
24. Watered effect
25. Park in the Rocky Mountains
28. Recreational contests
31. Reducing to small particles
33. Set free
36. Biblical region
38. Something given for temporary use
41. Current of air
43. Reverie
45. Edible seeds
46. Head covering
47. Hasten
48. Employees
49. Wild sheep
50. Urchin
53. Football position: abbr.

AP Newsfeatures 9-21

Solution of Yesterday's Puzzle

A	M	A	Z	E	D		S	P	A	D	E	S
R	E	M	O	V	E		R	E	T	I	R	E
O	R		N	A	Y		O	T	O		A	R
M	I	R	E	D			A	N	I	S	E	
A	N	O	D	E	S		E	L	E	V	E	N
S	O	W		D	U	P	E	S		A	R	E
				M	I	L						
S	E	W		P	A	G	E	D		S	A	C
A	L	A	R	I	C		R	E	P	I	N	E
L	I	N	E	R				R	I	P	E	R
A	C		P	A	W		N	I	L		L	I
D	I	L	A	T	E		A	D	O	R	E	S
S	T	A	Y	E	D		B	E	T	I	D	E

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