

# PAID IN FULL

Novelized From Eugene Walter's Great Play

That "Paid In Full" is a story of absorbing interest has been proved by its phenomenal success in dramatic form. For two seasons there has been no diminution in the drawing power of this vital piece of realism. In its present form it is not less engrossing. The features which made it so powerful as a play are not less potent in the serial. It is the same keen exposition of human motives put into the simplest forms of expression. There is no waste of material, no attempt to moralize, no break in the continuity. The three men who are the central figures in the story stand out in admirable distinctness from the very first, and the one woman whose splendid rectitude illuminates it all lives from the moment of her appearance. Although it is certain to produce frequent thrills, the story is neither melodramatic nor sensational. Its power lies in its humanness.



EUGENE WALTER, Author of "Paid In Full" and "The Easiest Way"

By John W. Harding

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"'Twas ever thus!" sighed Jenkins. "But there is yet hope. Our Joseph hath received a call to uplift the downtrodden."

CHAPTER I. "No; I'll not give 'em a raise of 1 cent an hour nor of a cent an hour; but a raise, understand. And I don't want you to come here thinking you can bulldoze me, because you'll find mighty quick you're mistaken. If any man thinks he can do that I want to see him."

CHAPTER II. JAMES SMITH, superintendent of the Latin-American Steamship company's docks, had arrived in response to the president's summons, conveyed to him by the telephone. Smith, known to his familiar as Jimmy, was a tall, gaunt, angular man, bearing all over him the stamp of a westerner. He was, in fact, from Colorado, where he began his active career by engaging in mining. Scant success attended his efforts in this direction, however, and after working with the dogged determination that was one of his traits until even his patience was exhausted he finally entered the employ of the steamship company in whose service he had risen to his present position, with headquarters in New York.

As unshakable as the rock of Gibraltar. As a fitting, almost necessary, complement of such a nature he was endowed with a sense of humor that added not a little to the attraction he exercised for those who knew him sufficiently well to be able to appreciate his qualities of heart and mind.

CHAPTER III. HE was a skilful architect indeed who first devised the box apartment houses so common now in all parts of New York and must have sat up many nights working out how to extricate the maximum of rent revenue from the area on which he had to fit the structure.

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guard our property and will also notify our docks at other ports to be prepared. You will fix up accommodations for the strike breakers in the sheds here until the trouble is over and make arrangements to bring men from the inland cities. In this matter you need spare no expense. Understand?"



"Yes, sir, by Sam, sir, like this!"

to meet it if I don't give in to his demands on the spot? No, sir, not by an all-fired sight! No, sir, not in a thousand years! I own this outfit from keel to main peak, and if I can't run it my own way I'll scuttle it and go down with it. Understand? And if any man's looking for a fight with me he'll find me quick enough, and I'll break him, no matter who or what he is. Yes, sir, by Sam, sir, like this!"

CHAPTER V. HE went out and on his way to the office exit stopped at Brooks' desk. "Well, how's things, boy?" he inquired with an interest so kindly that one might have thought there was nothing else in the world with which his mind was occupied and never could have suspected that there lay before him for immediate solution the problem of preparing for a great strike that threatened to tie up the business of one of the most important steamship lines in the country, with ramifications extending from Boston all around the coast of South America to San Francisco.

ever its size that was kept cleaner or neater or in which more effective use of available material had been made than that over which Mrs. Emma Brooks presided as mistress and factotum.

And Mrs. Brooks herself—how she glared it, altogether unconsciously. As the elder of two daughters of Stanley Harris, who, while not rich, had been well to do, she had been brought up in the comfort of a good home and had enjoyed the advantage of an education at a private seminary. Her father, whose constant companion she had been and whose sense of democracy in the matter of association she had inherited, had adored her, and when she had given her heart to Joseph Brooks, electing him from among numerous suitors, including James Smith, he gave his consent to their union against his own judgment and in face of the strenuous opposition of his wife, esteeming the girl's hapless niece superior to all other considerations.

Brooks, who had been in the employ of the Latin-American Steamship company for one year and had been brought into relations with the family by virtue of his selection as secretary to her father, the general manager, had no means whatever of his own, and his salary, then \$90 a month, was a desperately small income on which to begin housekeeping for a girl reared as she had been. But her father helped them, and the young couple counted upon his influence to procure the advancement of his son-in-law to a more remunerative post.

Unfortunately for them, however, Mr. Harris had died a few weeks after their wedding, and they found themselves thrown upon their own resources. Mrs. Harris, a selfish, shallow, unfeeling woman with social pretensions, who regarded her daughter's marriage with the young clerk as a misalliance and Brooks himself with disdain, left them to shift for themselves and with her other daughter, Beth, who was seven years younger than Emma and shared her mother's views, as she imitated her haughtiness, settled down to the enjoyment of the modest fortune her husband had left her and the indulgence of the ostentation she loved, but which during Mr. Harris' lifetime she had never been able to gratify to the top of her bent. She did not fear this, however, withdraw altogether from association with Emma and Brooks and continued on more or less amicable terms with them. Now and then she condescended to call upon them with Beth, but her visits, as a rule, were a good deal of a trial to the young couple, for she regarded Brooks' failure to get on in the steamship company as a vindication of her opinion as to his ability and the judiciousness of their marriage and was prone to condone with her daughter, assume an exasperatingly-told-you-so attitude and lament what might have been.

version, and, seeing that he was preoccupied and troubled, she ceased to try to engage his attention.

"I paid the gas bill today," he vouchsafed at length. "Ninety cents more than last month."

"Ninety cents more?" she commented with concern. "I'm sure we didn't use half as much. And we owe the butcher four-sixty."

"I'm sorry, Joe. Goodness knows I try to be as economical as I can."

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