

Love and Pity.

From Good Stories.

CHAPTER I.

"You look very happy," said little Elspeth, "and you have been so grave ever since mother took to her bed."

"I have had good news, little sister," said Bruce. She was not really his sister, but he had lived with them all his life, and felt now as if the connection was one of blood. Perhaps little Elspeth felt differently. She looked up at him wistfully, jealous of the news which brought such a light of happiness into his eyes, news which she knew nothing about. She was to know it now, though.

"Listen, and I will tell you a secret, Elsie," said the man, "my love story, though you never guessed that I had one. You need not look so startled," he went on, as he noticed the quick change in the girl's face. "I have kept it a secret these three years, only because I felt somehow that I could not speak about my hopes when there was such a little chance of realizing them. It is different, now that I have made money with my invention, and you are the first person in the world that I am telling. It was when I was in America that I met her—such a sweet, beautiful girl—I am sure you will love her as a sister, if I do win her. She was much richer than I was then, so I did not speak a word of love to her, but, somehow, I think she understood a little of what was in my heart. I think she understood that I said nothing because I was poor, that I meant to work hard to gain a position that I could honorably ask her to share with me. I think she understood all this, because there was such a complete sympathy between us from the first moment that I saw her and fell in love with her."

"What is her name?" Elspeth's voice sounded as though her throat were dry.

"Clarissa—a sweet name, isn't it?—Clarissa Wayne. She is the daughter of a Government official at Washington—a particular friend of the Dunlops, with whom I stayed for a month."

"And haven't you seen her all these three years?" asked Elspeth, quietly.

"No."

"Nor written to her?"

"I had no right."

"Perhaps she has married somebody else, long ago," said Elspeth, Bruce smiled.

"Oh! no, she hasn't, young lady, although she has plenty of offers. I don't know whether it is for my sake she refuses them all; but somehow I feel as though it must be. Tom Dunlop mentions her in every letter he sends me, though he never guesses how important it makes his epistles to me. He knew I liked her, and says that she often inquires about me. I feel somehow a certainty that we are fated to marry. I have felt so all along, while I was fighting for the position which I have made so much sooner than I expected."

"But you won't go back to her till mother gets better?" said Elsie, her lips quivering.

"No, there is no need, little sister, for me to go to America at all. Miss Wayne is now on her way to England, and if Tom Dunlop is right, I shall see her in less than a

week. That is the news that has made my heart as light as air. Come, wish me luck, and happiness, Elsie."

But Elspeth's face was as white as her apron. She could hardly speak; and for the very first time in his life a suspicion that seemed too utterly impossible to be entertained for a moment.

Two days later, however, the suspicion was no longer one. It was plain to him that poor little Elsie had considered him something far different from a brother, and in telling her of his love for Clarissa Wayne, he had, all unconsciously, been breaking her heart.

The day after the announcement, she was in a high fever, and her delirious wanderings made quite certain the suspicion which her sudden illness had aroused in Bruce's mind. Her mother, who had been ailing for some months, died while Elspeth was too ill to be conscious of her loss, and her last words revealed to Bruce the secret which the mother's eyes had seen, while his had been so blind.

"You will find, when you read your own heart," she said, "that you want your little sister to be something dearer. I should not die happy unless I know that it was so."

Bruce would not disturb her last peace by saying a word in contradiction. Only he wondered whether he had done anything that he could have avoided, so to win his little sister's heart unconsciously. He had never imagined that she could consider him anything but her brother.

He felt very, very sad about her, especially when her mother was dead, and, but for his, Elspeth was alone in the world. It almost seemed to him that it would be better for the poor girl to die than return to a life of disappointed loneliness. But he engaged the cleverest of doctors and nurses to attend her, and by and by they won her back a poor little shadow, to consciousness and life.

"You must give her some interest in life, and she will be strong again," said the doctor. "At present she scarcely seems to care whether she lives or dies, and she cannot get well if that is the case."

It was a fortnight after her illness and a week after her mother had been buried, that the little shadow of poor little Elsie came down stairs for the first time.

The nurse lifted her up with Bruce.

"Elsie, will you let me hold your hand?" he said, gently, taking her wasted hand in his big brown one. The blood rushed to her pale face.

"Oh, Bruce!" was all she said at first.

"Well, little one," he went on, "we have always been good comrades. Let us be as good comrades always, and we shall be the happiest man and wife that I know."

He spoke gently and gravely.

"But—Miss Wayne?" stammered Elsie, unable to believe her ears.

"Miss Wayne is dead," he said quietly. "The ship in which she was coming over was lost with all hands. After what I said to you three weeks ago, you cannot expect me to give you the same love that I hoped to give Clarissa; but I will be very good to you, Elsie."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Heart Failure.

HOW TO AVOID IT.

The epitaph on many a tombstone is "heart failure." No wonder, when we consider the immense strain which is put on that small organ. Marvelous as it is, beating 100,000 times and exerting a force equal to 5,184,000 pounds daily, it has its limit—its endurance often is too severely tested. So common are diseases of the heart—though often for a considerable time without the suspicions of the afflicted person being in the least excited—that it is stated that one person in four has a bad heart! Dr. Franklin Miles, of Elkhart, Ind., has for years made a special study of all diseases of the heart, and his remarkable success has made his name a familiar one in all parts of our land. He has found the most common symptoms of heart disease to be pain, distress or tenderness in the chest, back, stomach, bowels, left shoulder and arm, shortness of breath, smothering spells, fainting, etc.

Mr. George R. Smith, of Barnes, Yates Co., N. Y., writes:—"DR. MILES' NEW HEART CURE has worked wonderfully on mind and body so I can do a good day's work. I feel ten years younger and take more interest in affairs. I had shortness of breath, palpitation, pain under left shoulder blade, pain around the heart, I could not sleep on my right side. Since I have taken Dr. Miles' New Heart Cure I sleep well, and have no palpitation. It has made my heart stronger. I wish you would print this, because I want all to know what Dr. Miles' Heart Cure has done for me."

"For months my wife suffered with palpitation, smothering spells, and was unable to sleep on her left side. She tried several doctors without relief. Your Heart Cure was recommended. After taking three bottles, she fully recovered her health. Your medicines do what you claim."—(C. H. B. CHRISTMAN, Toledo, O.)

Dr. Miles' New Cure for the Heart is sold by all druggists on a positive guarantee. It is safe, agreeable, effective, and does cure. Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.



AN OFFER.

Wishing to secure as many ten-cent stamps as possible before Jan. 1st, we have decided to make a proposition on that should be accepted by every one. The Goodform, wonderful magazine published in Chicago—the World's Fair City—if you have not seen it you cannot appreciate how nice it is.

Notwithstanding it is only a year old it already outranks many of the oldest and most popular magazines of the world.

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DO NOT SEND ANY TAGS BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1924.

A list of the people obtaining these prizes in this county will be published in this paper immediately after February 1st, 1924.

THE R. T. SONG COMPANY, HINDELSTOWN, OHIO.

Very important!—Do not send in the tags until you have read the following conditions and rules of the contest, which are printed on the back of each tag. It is the interest of every person who has a tag to read these conditions and rules carefully, and to make sure that he understands them. If you do not understand them, you should write to the R. T. Song Company, Hindestown, Ohio, and ask for a copy of the conditions and rules. It is the interest of every person who has a tag to read these conditions and rules carefully, and to make sure that he understands them. If you do not understand them, you should write to the R. T. Song Company, Hindestown, Ohio, and ask for a copy of the conditions and rules.

CAUTION.—No tags will be received before January 1st, 1924, nor after February 1st, 1924. Each package containing tags must be marked plainly with name of sender, town, county, state, and number of tags in each package. All changes in packages must be made before January 1st, 1924, and after February 1st, 1924, no changes will be made.

Total Number of Prizes for this County, 226.

1,155 STRIP WINNING ELGIN GOLD WATCHES \$14,000.00
 5,775 FINE IMPORTED FRENCH OPERA GLASSES, MOROCCO BODY 28,000.00
 23,100 IMPORTED GERMAN BUCHHEIM HANDLED FOUR BLADED POCKET KNIVES 23,100.00
 116,500 ROLLED GOLD WATCH CHAIN TELESCOPE TOOTH PASTERS 116,500.00
 116,500 LARGED PICTURES (EIGHT INCHES) IN ELEVEN COLORS, for framing 116,500.00
 264,030 PRIZES, AMOUNTING TO \$173,250.00
 (not advertising on them)

The above articles will be distributed, by committee, among parties who cheer SPEAR HEAD TAGS, and return to us the TAGS taken therefrom. We will distribute 226 of these prizes in this county as follows:

TO THE PARTY SENDING US THE GREATEST NUMBER OF TAGS FROM THIS COUNTY WE WILL GIVE..... 1 GOLD WATCH.
 TO THE FIVE PARTIES SENDING US THE NEXT GREATEST NUMBER OF TAGS FROM THIS COUNTY WE WILL GIVE TO EACH..... 5 OPERA GLASSES.
 TO THE TWENTY PARTIES SENDING US THE NEXT GREATEST NUMBER OF TAGS FROM THIS COUNTY WE WILL GIVE TO EACH..... 1 POCKET KNIFE.
 TO THE ONE HUNDRED PARTIES SENDING US THE NEXT GREATEST NUMBER OF TAGS FROM THIS COUNTY WE WILL GIVE TO EACH..... 1 ROLLED GOLD WATCH CHAIN TELESCOPE TOOTH PASTER.
 TO THE ONE HUNDRED PARTIES SENDING US THE NEXT GREATEST NUMBER OF TAGS FROM THIS COUNTY WE WILL GIVE TO EACH..... 100 TELEPH PICTURES.
 TO THE FIVE PARTIES SENDING US THE NEXT GREATEST NUMBER OF TAGS FROM THIS COUNTY WE WILL GIVE TO EACH..... 100 PICTURES.
 TO THE ONE HUNDRED PARTIES SENDING US THE NEXT GREATEST NUMBER OF TAGS FROM THIS COUNTY WE WILL GIVE TO EACH..... 100 PICTURES.

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