

TWO KEYS TO A CABIN

CHAPTER II—While the girls talk the mystery man returns. Gay, surprisingly enough, introduces the man to her. He is Joffe Houghton, a young doctor whom Gay had known in previous years. Soon after arriving at the cottage Gay discovered his identity through an old monogrammed sweater. Immediately aggressive, Gay asks him by what right he is in the cabin. His right, she finds, is greater than her own. He, too, possesses a key, but more than that, is heir to it from his Uncle John, Gay's godfather. Gay is high handed with him, and he states courteously that he will leave. Looking at him in the doorway, her old feelings return. She knows that he is more necessary to her than is Todd Janeway, the man she is to marry.

CHAPTER III—Before he leaves, John goes for a walk. When he returns he finds Gay sitting before the fireplace. They begin talking on a more friendly basis, and she asks him to reconsider his decision to leave. The next morning brings a different feeling, and John decides to remain for his vacation—one more week.

CHAPTER IV—The night before Gay and Kate are to return home to New York John gets an urgent request to call at a nearby farm. Gay accompanies him while he cares for the patient. Returning to the cabin at a late hour, John stops the car. He tells Gay that he loves her, and she admits that he is necessary to her happiness.

CHAPTER V—Meanwhile, worried by their absence, Kate has called Todd Janeway in New York. She knows that Gay and John feel a strong attachment for each other, and wants Todd to come to Maine where he can talk to Gay. Todd arrives while Kate is alone. She breaks the news to him. Todd, warm hearted and generous, is heart-sick but refuses to become melodramatic.

CHAPTER VI—Gay and John, who have been canoeing, return to the cabin, there to find Todd. John leaves temporarily and Gay tells Todd that she has fallen in love with John. Todd, understanding that it is unavoidable, tells her he is still her best friend. Gay realizes that Todd will always be her friend, and that if she ever needs help she has but to turn to him.

CHAPTER VII—It is Christmas and Gay is home in New York, awaiting John's return for the holidays. She meets him at the station, and they go to her home to be met by Gay's mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cameron. John likes her father, but is ill at ease in the presence of Kitty Cameron. Gay's mother is an unusual woman. Frequently divorced, she remains on friendly terms with her former husbands. She divorced them because she grew bored by their company.

CHAPTER VIII—John tried hard to understand the point of view of Gay's sleek young friends. They are wealthy, spoiled and clanish. Gay knows he does not feel at home with them, and this leads to petty bickering and quarrels. They try to avoid it, but their different modes of living raises a barrier between them. Gay's Aunt Flora, a social tyrant, does not approve of the match. She and Gay quarrel, but Gay has the last word.

CHAPTER IX—John and Gay go walking in the snow. They arrive at the Janeway estate where they find a number of her friends to be greeted. They join them, and Gay has a long talk with Todd, who assures her that he still loves her, and that she should turn to him when in need of a friend.

The laughter had gone out of her voice. John saw that her contentment was shattered. She glanced at him guardedly, wondering, he knew, what effect further discussion of their situation would have upon him. He smiled, but, studying her expression, he knew that he had failed to reassure her completely.

"I know how it irritates you to be questioned," she said, obviously

...and the approach with care. "But under the circumstances, Gay—"

"We have no definite plans. "Then you won't be married this winter?"

"No," Gay said and was silent. "But I thought— You told me—"

"That Dad was wangling a place for John in the research department at Johns Hopkins," Gay said evenly.

"Wasn't he successful? I should think that considering what his father did for the hospital, there should be no question of a refusal."

"There will be an opening at the first of the year."

"But I am not free to accept it, Mrs. Cameron," John said. "I'm obligated until October."

"Couldn't some arrangement be made?"

"I'm afraid not." He knew that his voice expressed the resentment he felt. He had no reason to feel resentful, he told himself. Gay's mother had every right to make inquiries. But he had come to fear the effect upon Gay, upon himself, of further useless discussion. It was only by avoiding any reference to the future that they had maintained, these past two days in the country, a close and intimate companionship.

It was his fault. The sense of inadequacy he felt was deeply humiliating. How could he make Gay's mother understand the nature of his obligation, the impossibility of buying his release? Buy his release? He thought bitterly. Permit Gay to buy it for him—

In the silence which followed his reply, he saw Kitty Cameron turn with a baffled expression to her daughter.

"But, Gay—" she began.

"Does it matter, Mother, except to John and to me?" Gay sat forward in her chair, her color heightened, her attitude defensive. "Other people have had to wait. John knows best what his obligations are. If I'm willing to—" She dropped back into the chair with a short mirthless laugh. "After all the fuss there's been, I can't understand why you try to rush us into marriage."

"I'm not trying to rush you into anything. I'm merely trying to find out, if I can, what you expect to do."

"Whatever I do needn't interfere with your plans, Mother. You've accepted the Davenports' invitation, haven't you?"

"Tentatively. But you wouldn't enjoy it, darling. A six weeks' cruise. No young people and the Davenports aren't stimulating company."

"Besides which, I haven't been invited. Go, of course, Mother. The Davenports are dull but you and Robert enjoy yourselves wherever you are."

"But what will you do?" Kitty Cameron's glance, a little embarrassed, he thought, turned to John. "I don't suppose all of this is very entertaining to John."

"Why not?" Gay folded her arms beneath her head. "I can go to Daytona with Aunt Flora."

"Then couldn't you?"

4-H TROPHY WINNERS



Clayton Nyberg of Tualatin, who was awarded the sweepstakes trophy for the best display in the state 4-H club show at Corvallis and Geraldine deLancey of Corvallis, winner of the Moses trophy. Courtesy Oregonian

"No, I guess you're right. Well, I could go to Italy with Dad, though he doesn't really want me. When I'm with him he thinks he should do things to entertain me. He's much happier poking around in art museums and book-shops and cathedrals alone."

"David was born a bachelor," David Graham's former wife said without rancor, in indulgent extenuation. "He's always happier alone, though when I made that possible the heavens fell." Her attention returned to the subject under discussion. "I want to know that you are provided for, before I accept the Davenports' invitation definitely. You always have invitations."

"I'll visit Tory in Palm Beach. It's usually amusing there," she said with a forced gaiety which struck through John's heart in a stab of quivering pain. "I, in Palm Beach, John, in Maine. You and Robert, cruising with the Davenports. May we all survive!"

Kitty Cameron regarded her daughter thoughtfully, her brow beneath the soft waves of her amazing hair, puckered in lines of doubt. As she opened her lips to speak, the telephone rang. She took the instrument from the table beside the chaise-longue.

"Hello . . . Yes, darling," John heard her say. "Yes, they're here. John is leaving tonight . . . No, I had no idea . . . Of course I've told them . . . Wait a minute . . . It's Robert," she said. "What shall

4-H Clubbers Honor Guests at Luncheon

Honors were added to awards already won when seven Oregon winners in national 4-H club contests were guests of Portland business men Thursday, March 7 at a luncheon.

Another guest, Clayton Nyberg of Tualatin, received the sweepstakes trophy awarded for the best display in the state corn show, which was held in Corvallis. Nyberg was in 4-H club work for ten years, and at one time was runner-up for one of the two Moses trophies, awarded to the outstanding club boy and girl in the nation.

Geraldine deLancey of Corvallis, winner of the Moses trophy this year, put Oregon in a tie for first place in the number of times the trophy has been won by a single state. Oregon and Oklahoma have each received the trophy six times.

No other state has had it more than twice. H. C. Seymour, state 4-H club leader, told members of the Portland Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee and the trade and commerce committee, who were joint hosts.

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