

The Strumpet Sea

By BEN AMES WILLIAMS

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W. H. J. SERVICE

SYNOPSIS

George McAusland was 38 years old when he sailed from America to undertake his post as a missionary in the Fiji Islands. A crime he had committed in a fit of excitement had shattered all his confidence in himself. He felt forced to avoid pretty Mary Doncaster, who boarded the ship at Honolulu. She was en route to visit her parents, who were missionaries on Glead Island. Mary was attracted by George's attempts to avoid her. One day George accidentally fell overboard. Mary unhesitatingly dove into the sea to rescue George. George is falling in love with her. When the boat approached her home on Glead Island, they learned that Mary's parents had both died. George volunteered to take charge of the mission.

CHAPTER III—Continued

Mary nodded, a secret amusement in her eyes. "So, for our reputations' sake you think we ought to ask John Gale to marry us, and stay and work together? Is that what you want?" "Yes," she urged smilingly. "George," she urged smilingly. "Why did you decide you wanted to stay here? Honestly?" "Something for a moment rose in him, choking him. He came strongly to his feet; he cried in a sort of fury:

George nodded, and tried. "I don't care for the flavor," he decided. "I'd as soon eat glue!" Jarambo and Leni stood beaming by. He looked toward the girl and said, lowering his voice as though by doing so he could avoid being understood: "Can we persuade her into a more civilized costume, Mary? What's that she has on?" "They make the cloth by soaking some sort of bark—like flax—and beating it over a log. Tappy, they call it." She smiled. "But Leni has on her prettiest frock, George, in our honor. Usually she won't be so dressed up!" "Haven't you an old dress you can give her?" "She wouldn't wear it."

"Try her and see." "I will in the morning," Mary assented. He took her old room, she her father's, with the length of the house between them. Mary lay long awake, drenched in the night sounds half forgotten that had once been so familiar. Once she heard George sneeze, and she called softly: "All right, my dear? Warm enough?" "Perfectly!" In the morning he appeared in the heavy black suit he had worn on shipboard. The first shower of the day pelted on the thatch, thrummed among the palms, passed to leave a stifling humid heat behind. Mary was cool in white; in a dress she had worn in school which she now left unbuttoned at the throat, and



"I have my husband," she reminded him. without petticoats or other foundation. George said in a low tone: "Your dress, Mary." "My dress?" She did not understand him. "Button it," he said. "And—I think you have forgotten your petticoats."

"I have my husband," she reminded him. She protested: "I've left them off, yes. You surely don't expect . . . George, you must realize how ridiculous you look, and how uncomfortable you will be in that heavy suit."

"I'm a fool of course; but to keep my head here, I'm going to have to hold on to something, Mary. It's so easy to begin to live as these savages do, to lie around half-dressed, idle, useless, unless we hang on to our own ways of doing things."

He added, half laughing at himself: "I know wearing this suit is foolish, but—I guess it's a symbol or something."

"We can't have the house full of these people staring at us all the time, Mary. I'm trying to send them away. And when you come out, bring something for Jennie to wear."

Those first weeks after her return to the island were for Mary pleasant enough. George maintained a reserve toward her which she waited for time to break down, but she had the delight of seeing him happy in these scenes she loved. He was full of questions, intensely interested in every aspect of the island life, going to and fro along the many trails that led to the thatch-roofed houses of poles built on rock platforms like their own.

"This is Leni, George. Jarambo brought her to take care of us." He looked dubious. "She's just a child, isn't she? Must we have anyone? Where's the kitchen, Mary? And what do we eat this with?"

Mary laughed. "Dip your finger in it, twist it around, and stick it in your mouth," she directed. "That's the stingy and sticky for a fork or a spoon."

"She wouldn't wear it." "Try her and see." "I will in the morning," Mary assented.

George said: "I don't care for the flavor, he decided. 'I'd as soon eat glue!'"

"Haven't you an old dress you can give her?" "She wouldn't wear it."

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Election Statistics

(Table below shows state by state results in the election of the President (electoral vote), Congressional Representatives, U. S. Senators and the governors of each state in which these posts were at stake.)

State	Federal			Congress			Senators			Governors		
	D	R	P	D	R	P	D	R	D	R	P	
Ala.	11	9		1								
Ark.	3	1				1	1					
Calif.	22	11	9									
Colo.	8	6	2	2			1	1	1			
Conn.	3	6	1							1	1	
Del.	3	1				1					1	
Fla.	7	5										
Georgia	12	10									1	
Idaho	4	1	1				1	1	1			
Illinois	29	11	16								1	
Indiana	14	4	8				1	1	1			
Iowa	11	2	7								1	
Kansas	9	1	6							1	1	
Ky.	11	8	1				1					
La.	10	8										
Maine	5	3								1		
Md.	8	6				1						
Mass.	17	6	9								1	
Mich.	19	6	11					1	1			
*Minn.	11	8					1					
Miss.	9	7										
Mo.	15	10	3								1	
Mont.	4	1	1								1	
Neb.	7	2	3					1	1			
Nevada	3	1					1					
N. H.	4	2									1	
N. J.	16	4	10				1					
N. M.	3	1								1		
IN. Y.	47	25	19									
N. C.	13	11								1		
N. D.	4	2								1		
Ohio	26	12	12							1	1	
Okla.	11	8										
Oregon	5	1	2									
Pa.	36	19	15									
R. I.	4	2								1		
S. C.	8	6										
S. D.	4	2									1	
Tenn.	11	6	2	1								
Texas	23	21	1							1		
Utah	4	2									1	
Vt.	4	2									1	
Va.	11	9								1		
Wash.	8	6									1	
W. Va.	8	6									1	
Wis.	12	1	6	Prog.								
Wyo.	3	1									1	

TOTALS 449 82 267 162 22 12 18 15

Additional Congressional Results. * Minnesota has one Farmer-Laborite. † New York has one American-Laborite. ‡ Tennessee has one Independent. § Wisconsin has three Progressives.

NOTE: It should be remembered that only 33 states elected governors and 35 states elected senators in this 1940 election.

(Tabulation below gives the popular vote for the presidential election as reported by the various states.)

	Roosevelt	Willkie
Alabama	179,589	27,651
Arizona	77,212	41,833
Arkansas	102,805	26,405
California	1,750,876	1,240,231
Colorado	198,675	212,435
Connecticut	417,538	361,869
Delaware	74,387	63,059
Florida	338,847	121,033
Georgia	240,734	41,462
Idaho	117,201	99,490
Illinois	2,130,194	2,036,431
Indiana	860,472	884,587
Iowa	572,055	622,727
Kansas	348,974	465,599
Kentucky	481,550	350,222
Louisiana	186,171	29,542
Maine	154,774	163,928
Maryland	394,168	250,362
Massachusetts	1,052,678	916,411
Michigan	1,025,963	1,032,963
Minnesota	622,032	583,536
Mississippi	100,825	4,737
Missouri	946,125	856,531
Montana	109,130	73,379
Nebraska	256,761	341,863
Nevada	31,967	20,946
New Hampshire	125,625	109,962
New Jersey	1,014,978	947,638
New Mexico	105,031	82,754
New York	3,262,273	3,029,180
North Carolina	575,072	182,706
North Dakota	113,969	144,635
Ohio	1,728,020	1,584,852
Oklahoma	468,397	342,675
Oregon	229,819	202,715
Pennsylvania	2,168,693	1,884,847
Rhode Island	181,881	138,432
South Carolina	85,077	4,193
South Dakota	114,623	150,370
Tennessee	323,710	150,531
Texas	682,173	162,755
Utah	153,434	93,006
Vermont	64,244	78,335
Virginia	236,512	109,682
Washington	349,869	244,057
West Virginia	483,566	369,769
Wisconsin	693,017	672,343
Wyoming	58,262	51,948
Total	25,906,408	21,606,691

(Above figures are unofficial. Complete and official returns are announced following canvass by the various state boards.)

Election Sidelights:

Both presidential candidates carried their own home voting districts. Roosevelt received a majority of 74 votes to win, 376 to 302; Willkie's native town gave him a margin of 438 votes. The count was Willkie, 4,151; Roosevelt, 3,713.

Post-election celebration kept Manhattan frenzied busy after Roosevelt's victory became apparent. More than 50 fire alarms were turned in as a result of street bonfires set by celebrants.

In order to record the electoral vote the 531 presidential electors will gather on December 16 in their various state capitals and send their votes to Washington by registered mail. These letters will actually be tabulated by Congress on January 6 and President Roosevelt will be sworn in for his third term on January 20.

Members of the electoral college used to get a trip to Washington but in 1934, congress decided that its duties were too routine and turned it into a "correspondence school."



THE DICTATOR AT HOME

Dictator (getting out of bed)—Draw me my tub! Wife—Don't be funny. You're big enough to turn faucets. Dictator—I'm not accustomed to having my orders disobeyed in that way. Wife—Well, that's just too bad. Quiet, please. I want to sleep a little longer. Dictator (from the bathroom)—Ella, where's my shaving cream? Wife—How should I know where your shaving cream is? And don't yell so!

Dictator—I put it on the second shelf and it ain't here. I've looked everywhere. Wife (getting up and finding it right on the second shelf)—Right under your nose, yet you couldn't find it. And you're the fellow who is always finding new outlets to the sea!

Dictator (dressing)—I think I'll wear my blue uniform of an aviation general today. Wife—That funny getup! Dictator (hurt)—I don't think it's funny.

Wife—Of course not. If you did you wouldn't wear it in all those news reel pictures. Put on your tan uniform of a cavalry colonel. That ain't so hot, either, but it fits. Dictator—I'm wearing my blue uniform!

Wife—Okay. If you want to look like a monkey, it's your own business. Dictator—The trouble with you is you don't know a good uniform when you see one. I know style, I do. I know class. I know distinction. (But he puts on the tan uniform.)

Wife (at breakfast)—You've got egg on your chin, honeykins. Dictator—Don't call me honeykins. These eggs are too soft, anyhow. Wife—They're four-minute eggs. Dictator—They couldn't have been boiled over three minutes. Wife—Four minutes! Dictator—Three minutes! Wife—Four! Dictator—Three! And what are you laughing at? Wife—I'm laughing at your inadequacy in debate. If you can't even win an argument over eggs, how do you get away with all those arguments over the destiny of nations?

Dictator—Enough of this! I'm going down to the office where I can find some respect. Wife—On your way home tonight, stop at the butcher's and bring me some liver for the cat. Dictator—I don't know that I will be coming that way. Wife—You heard me. Liver for the cat. Dictator—Oh, all right. But, listen, have dinner early. I've got a big conference on about affairs in the Mediterranean. Wife—Not tonight. We've a dinner and bridge engagement at the Spurgeons. Dictator—You'll have to call it off. Wife—That's what you think. We made this date a month ago and we can't break it. Now run along like a nice boy.

Dictator (hopelessly)—Gee, Ella, can't I ever have my own way in anything? CAN YOU BEAT IT? The ultimate in dog love is reported by a woman who was trying to get another woman on the telephone the other day. The wire seemed constantly busy. A protest to the complaint operator brought the information that the phone was evidently out of order. The woman making the call finally motored over to her friend's house and told about the trouble. "Oh, yes," replied her friend, "I've had the receiver off the hook for the last hour so Fido can get her nap. She's awfully nervous lately."

There is going to be a sensation in the European war one of these years when a bomber hits a legitimate target. Ad similes: as servile as the Vichy government. OLD TIMERS "Charley's Aunt," a comedy which made grandpaw and grandmaw laugh their heads off, has been revived on Broadway. We look for "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Ben Hur," "The Breakers," "The Great Train Robbery," "Bertha the Beautiful Sewing Machine Girl" and the Byrnes Brothers in "Eight Bells" any day now.

Description of a girlish type by R. Roelofs Jr.: Vogue on the outside and vague on the inside.

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