

RED HAIR AND BLUE SEA



STANLEY R. OSBORN ILLUSTRATIONS BY HENRY JAY LEE

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WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE Palmyra Tree, aboard the yacht Rainbow, is started by seeing a hand thrust through the port of her cabin.

ed upon the stranger man in a futile rage at circumstance. "Damn you," he cried, "I'd rather stay here and die like a gentleman—clean and dry. But a moment later he sprang up with his old laugh. "After all, it's got to be the fish or the birds. I'm a braver man than you, you optimistic ass, because I know..."

ing out yer lips and begging me 't take a smack. "Twon't be long." Nor was her situation made easier by Burke's evil sense of humor. Possibly to hasten her surrender, more probably in a mere cruel amusement, it played upon her fears.

CHAPTER V

Back ashore, where the moment of Palmyra Tree's abduction had found her fiancé so afraid of wounding the girl that he could not raise a rifle in her defense, every passing circumstance was carrying forward the revelation of two characters.

The Pigeon of Noah was flying into the unknown. The face of the man Burke was a thing of wonder at. Under the exaltation of a master idea, it had grown strange, compelling. His eyes gleamed, his tongue stumbled in its eagerness. For the first time in life he was to voice that which long had hidden in his evil mind.

Then the white man came climbing up. "Y' little vixen," he warned in a malicious enjoyment of the situation, "push me overboard..." He interrupted himself with a burst of laughter. "Gad," he cried, "but I'd hate t' give y' the chance! Push me overboard, and I'm gone. But—"

Thurston's idea now that, placing his four separately worthless boats in tandem, two on each side, he could lash them under a framework of the lighter spars into a machine which would carry a considerable spread of sail.

"What a people! What a people t'work with!" His fingers opened and closed anticipatorily, with a catlike zestfulness. "What can't we do t' them Papuan wildmen," he cried, "and what can't we make 'em do for us. That's the ticket, Palm; what we can make 'em do for us!"

The girl had sprung, trembling, panting for the companion, had slammed it shut and shot home the bolts. Then she had stumbled down the steps and thrown herself, sobbing, upon the bunk. She had borne up bravely so long as the sun remained, but on the closing in of night, with all its sinister implications, she had given way.

Work had been going on perhaps an hour when he appeared for the first time to become aware of Van Buren Rutger's drooping figure. John had completely forgotten the other man. Convicted, he ran over to him.

"Why, kid," he was expositulating a moment later, "his here big idea ain't something that popped into m'head just recent. Gosh, no. Had it in mind for years. But..." He hesitated, diffident; a thing so foreign to his usual brazen assurance as to seem histrionic. "But the fact is I was waiting for y' for you!"

The day, with the disconcerting suddenness of the Equator, had faded and darkness would soon have been upon them. Burke had waved a hand toward the cabin with kingly gesture. "The royal chamber awaits' Queenie," he had said. "Hot as hell down there and you'll soon be squawking for a hammock on deck. But tonight..."

Thurston's face was resolute. "Perhaps you're right," he acknowledged. "Very likely so. But for me, I prefer to die trying."

"I just had t' have a dame for this stunt," he went on passionately. "A real dame, a sure enough queen. And then I meets you. The very first watch I sees y'got the shape for it. And when y'lets out about pirate blood, I knows y'got the heart for it. 'Cause yer talks on the square; more on the square than you yourself realizes."

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Thurston urged the men to work as the first color of the dawn touched the eastern sky the last of the stores and gear was lashed into place.

"Wait till I've tamed you," he would laugh. "Then we'll get along fine. And you'll sure like Tanna when y'get the taste o' power in yer pretty mouth."

March 30, Friday night, is the date set for the annual congregational meeting to which everyone is invited. A dinner will be served that night followed by the business meeting. Rev. D. A. Thompson will be present.

sons Gordon, Carol and Freddie. Mrs. Geo. Gross entertained a number of their small friends in honor of the birthdays of the three boys, each of them having a birthday in March. Gordon 6 years, Freddie 7 years and Carol 8. After a play hour the children enjoyed a lunch such as is always dear to the heart of a young guest.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Muller and daughter June came recently from Pe Ell, Wn., for a visit with his brother, Joe Muller and family. Monica Lacher is also staying with Mrs. Muller and family for a while.

Harry Murchie left Sunday for his home in Seaside after a two weeks visit at the J. C. Ballenger home. Mrs. Lee Mead was hostess at the last meeting of the Home Economics club of the Emmons. Mrs. Fortie was an invited guest. Mrs. Royal Rands will have the club at the next meeting, March 28.

The mothers of the basketball boys and girls gave a Banquet on Tuesday night, March 20, at the cafeteria. Members of the high school student body, their parents, members of the board of directors, the faculty, were guests, honoring the basketballers. A marvelous chicken dinner was served. The tables were beautifully decorated.

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LESSON No. 18. Question: Why is emulsified cod-liver oil so needful for a child who is pale and losing weight? Answer: It is food and tonic rich in vitamins and other nourishing factors that are particularly helpful to a weakened child. For your child—old reliable SCOTT'S EMULSION UNION PACIFIC STAGES, INC. Motor Coach Service between PORTLAND-PENDLETON WESTBOUND Lv. Arlington 12:15 a.m. 12:55 p.m. Arrival Time These Points: THE DALLES 1:05 p.m. HOOD RIVER 2:35 p.m. MULTNOMAH FALLS 4:05 p.m. PORTLAND 5:45 p.m. EASTBOUND Lv. Arlington 1:30 p.m. 2:50 p.m. Arrival Time These Points: UMATILLA 2:55 p.m. PENDLETON 4:30 p.m. Connection at Pendleton with Pendleton-Walla Walla Stages. EXPRESS PACKAGES CARRIED. MOTOR COACHES LEAVE: See Railroad Agent at various points en route for tickets and information.