

Judith Lane

by JEANNE BOWMAN

SYNOPSIS: Judith Dale, who just has moved into her new home with Norman, her husband, has promised her old employer, the engineer, Tom Bevins, that should he die she will carry out his plan to the letter for his dam and reclamation project at Rio Diablo. The task is complicated by the fact that Norman's law partner is undoubtedly fighting Bevins, and Bevins' daughter Mathie is trying to win Norman. Then Tom Bevins dies.

Chapter 13 STRUGGLE BEGINS

LIGE, with an eye to dramatic effect, made the announcement of a proclamation. Judith, a gay Columbine, was in the act of twirling in Slim Sanford's arms to show Norman and Poppy Neville, (their new, next door neighbors) how a "swale-step" should be executed.

Judith paused and stood breathless as the servant swung back the drapes, held up a yellow-palmed hand and said—"Ma's Bevins is dead. He dropped dead ten minutes ago. Miss Matilda, she say Ma's Norman is to come to hur, soon's he kin git there."

Braced against Sanford's supporting arm, Judith wondered which pain was the sharper, the fierce throb of jealousy at Mathie's command, or the shock of her beloved old friend's death.

Judith. She should put more warmth in her voice. Cila knew how dear Big Tom had been to her. She'd think her completely heartless.

"It seems Mathie and Mrs. Bevins were giving a dinner party this evening. Bevins came in, said he was too tired to sit in, and would go on up to bed.

"They objected because it would leave thirteen at the table. He sat in. Afterwards he started to his room again but, he was needed to fill in at a bridge table. He filled in.

"He played until ten o'clock, complained of feeling queer, dizzy. While he was dummy he excused himself saying he was going for a drink. He got as far as the door."

Tears of pity burned Judith's eyes. Cila saw the closed eye-lids. Her terse, dramatic style of relating the scene had worked.

"He died instantly," she concluded.

A GREAT, choking sob tore up through Judith's throat and burst.

The sobs went on until Cila, thoroughly frightened, called to her brother—"Telephone the Bevins and get Norman back here where he belongs."

"No," Judith stood up, crying checked instantly, "he went to her



"He complained of feeling dizzy... got as far as the door."

to change clothes then with a hurried kiss to the now drooping Columbine, rushed for his car. The guests left, all but the Sanfords. Cila, taking Judith to her room, seemed on the verge of saying something several times only to stop, light a fresh cigarette, and dash it out in the nearest ash-tray.

"I'll call my office," she said at length and went downstairs.

Judith stared into the mirror. Methodically she removed paint and powder with fresh tissue, folded each piece carefully, and tossed them into their basket.

"Dead," she thought vaguely, "he's dead, Big Tom."

"I should feel something," she said aloud to the white faced girl in the mirror. "I really should but I don't... just sort of numb... and queer."

She slipped out of her costume, then went to her wardrobe, and reached for a robe, made careful selection. She chose one of peach glow, so Norman when he returned wouldn't notice how pale she looked; peach glow with soft elder-down about the wide sleeves and hem.

"Big Tom is dead and I'm dressing up."

A QUEER noise intruded itself into her calm. She went to the window, opened it. There were lights in the servants' quarters and through the unshaded window pane she could see Delphy seated, apron thrown over her head, rocking back and forth and moaning. What a relief it must be to release pent up feelings like that.

"Judy," Cila was at the door, a tray in her hand. "Slim's been taking liberties. I felt the need of a cocktail so he shook up one for each of us."

the moment she called. I won't have him," and then she crumpled into a heap of peach-glow and elderdown.

Voices were talking in a gray dawn, men's voices. Judith heard them. She listened. "But young man," one was saying, "if those fool Bevins women had given Tom half the care this young wife of yours gave him, he'd be alive now... oh, oh, here she comes, feeling better, Mrs. Dale!"

Judith opened her eyes. Dr. Kelly was bending over her on one side, Norman was close, his arms supporting her, Cila and Slim were standing before the window.

"Sorry, I didn't mean... silly and feminine to faint," she apologized, incoherently.

After the doctor and the Sanfords had left, Judith and Norman went to the den, where a crackling hearth fire dispelled some of the greyness of the early morning.

Judith, still in the circle of Norman's arm, was surprised when her husband spoke in a quick, surprised tone of voice.

"Do you happen to know where Big Tom kept his will?"

"Didn't your office take care of it?"

"Originally, but he cancelled his old one after that Diablo trip. According to the papers, he died intestate."

"And that means?"

"Mrs. Bevins will inherit everything. She surmised she would last night and asked Lampers to act as administrator."

VETS MAY ENTER CCC IF ABLE TO PERFORM LABOR

Instructions for veterans, wishing to enroll in the Civilian Conservation Corps, have been received here by Oliver L. Overmyer, commander of the Medford post of the American Legion.

Honorably discharged veterans, who have not been previously enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps, who are physically able to carry on in manual labor, are eligible to enrollment.

Veterans, as referred to, are those who saw service with the armed forces of the United States during the periods indicated.

World War—April 6, 1917-July 2, 1921.

Spanish-American War—April 21, 1898-July 5, 1902.

Philippine Insurrection—August 13, 1898-July 15, 1903.

Moro Expedition—August 13, 1898-July 15, 1903.

Boxer Rebellion—June 20, 1900-May 13, 1901.

Application blanks will not be distributed except to interested veterans, Paul I. Carter, M. D., manager of the Veterans' Administration at Portland, will furnish blanks to all veterans, expressing a desire to file application.

Each veteran is asked to get two signatures to the indorsement of the application, to present discharge certificate for review of the signers, and to return application blank, immediately after, to the Portland office.

ONLY JEW IN CCC DEPARTS FRIDAY

Sol Selzer of Chicago, a CCC enrollee at Camp South Fork of the Rogue, is the only person of the Jewish faith in the Medford CCC district, a survey conducted in interest of the Seder celebration shows.

As Passover is from March 30 to midnight of April 1, the celebration is held on the first night. Selzer is leaving by train Friday for his home in Illinois, as he is completing his term here.

The Jewish welfare board has made arrangements with the government so that CCC men of the Jewish faith, who are on duty near their homes, may return there for Passover.

Phone 542. We will haul away your refuse, City Sanitary Service.

GIVE IT A WHIRL by Hatlo



"LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY" By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



S'MATTER POP



TAILSPIN TOMMY



BEN WEBSTER'S CAREER



THE NEBBS



BRINGING UP FATHER



WRONG ANSWER



Fluents CWA End WASHINGTON, March 25—(AP)—Norman Thomas, Socialist leader, today told Harry L. Hopkins, federal relief administrator, that in discontinuing civil works "you are going back to the old game of seeing how few crusts can keep the people from starving or rising."

Convicted of Cat Killing PORTLAND, Ore., March 25—(AP)—court ruling which may have a far-reaching effect was issued in district court here Friday when L. M. Bell was convicted of raising property damage when his automobile struck and killed a cat.

THE FLAVOR L-A-S-T-S

WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT THE PERFECT GUM

5¢ EVERYWHERE

After the doctor and the Sanfords had left, Judith and Norman went to the den, where a crackling hearth fire dispelled some of the greyness of the early morning.

Judith, still in the circle of Norman's arm, was surprised when her husband spoke in a quick, surprised tone of voice.

"Do you happen to know where Big Tom kept his will?"

"Didn't your office take care of it?"

"Originally, but he cancelled his old one after that Diablo trip. According to the papers, he died intestate."

"And that means?"

"Mrs. Bevins will inherit everything. She surmised she would last night and asked Lampers to act as administrator."

Judith started. This was exactly what Big Tom had feared. With Lampers in control of the money and the company, he would exploit the land for his own benefit. However, knowing his physical condition as he did, would Big Tom have overlooked anything as important as a will? She doubted it.

"I find I am married to a million-also stenographer."

After the doctor and the Sanfords had left, Judith and Norman went to the den, where a crackling hearth fire dispelled some of the greyness of the early morning.

Judith, still in the circle of Norman's arm, was surprised when her husband spoke in a quick, surprised tone of voice.

"Do you happen to know where Big Tom kept his will?"

"Didn't your office take care of it?"

"Originally, but he cancelled his old one after that Diablo trip. According to the papers, he died intestate."

"And that means?"

"Mrs. Bevins will inherit everything. She surmised she would last night and asked Lampers to act as administrator."

Judith started. This was exactly what Big Tom had feared. With Lampers in control of the money and the company, he would exploit the land for his own benefit. However, knowing his physical condition as he did, would Big Tom have overlooked anything as important as a will? She doubted it.

"I find I am married to a million-also stenographer."

After the doctor and the Sanfords had left, Judith and Norman went to the den, where a crackling hearth fire dispelled some of the greyness of the early morning.

Judith, still in the circle of Norman's arm, was surprised when her husband spoke in a quick, surprised tone of voice.

"Do you happen to know where Big Tom kept his will?"

"Didn't your office take care of it?"

"Originally, but he cancelled his old one after that Diablo trip. According to the papers, he died intestate."

"And that means?"

"Mrs. Bevins will inherit everything. She surmised she would last night and asked Lampers to act as administrator."

Judith started. This was exactly what Big Tom had feared. With Lampers in control of the money and the company, he would exploit the land for his own benefit. However, knowing his physical condition as he did, would Big Tom have overlooked anything as important as a will? She doubted it.

"I find I am married to a million-also stenographer."

After the doctor and the Sanfords had left, Judith and Norman went to the den, where a crackling hearth fire dispelled some of the greyness of the early morning.

Judith, still in the circle of Norman's arm, was surprised when her husband spoke in a quick, surprised tone of voice.

"Do you happen to know where Big Tom kept his will?"

"Didn't your office take care of it?"

"Originally, but he cancelled his old one after that Diablo trip. According to the papers, he died intestate."

"And that means?"

"Mrs. Bevins will inherit everything. She surmised she would last night and asked Lampers to act as administrator."

Judith started. This was exactly what Big Tom had feared. With Lampers in control of the money and the company, he would exploit the land for his own benefit. However, knowing his physical condition as he did, would Big Tom have overlooked anything as important as a will? She doubted it.

"I find I am married to a million-also stenographer."

After the doctor and the Sanfords had left, Judith and Norman went to the den, where a crackling hearth fire dispelled some of the greyness of the early morning.

Judith, still in the circle of Norman's arm, was surprised when her husband spoke in a quick, surprised tone of voice.

"Do you happen to know where Big Tom kept his will?"

"Didn't your office take care of it?"

"Originally, but he cancelled his old one after that Diablo trip. According to the papers, he died intestate."

"And that means?"

"Mrs. Bevins will inherit everything. She surmised she would last night and asked Lampers to act as administrator."

Judith started. This was exactly what Big Tom had feared. With Lampers in control of the money and the company, he would exploit the land for his own benefit. However, knowing his physical condition as he did, would Big Tom have overlooked anything as important as a will? She doubted it.

"I find I am married to a million-also stenographer."

After the doctor and the Sanfords had left, Judith and Norman went to the den, where a crackling hearth fire dispelled some of the greyness of the early morning.

Judith, still in the circle of Norman's arm, was surprised when her husband spoke in a quick, surprised tone of voice.

"Do you happen to know where Big Tom kept his will?"

"Didn't your office take care of it?"

"Originally, but he cancelled his old one after that Diablo trip. According to the papers, he died intestate."

"And that means?"

"Mrs. Bevins will inherit everything. She surmised she would last night and asked Lampers to act as administrator."

Judith started. This was exactly what Big Tom had feared. With Lampers in control of the money and the company, he would exploit the land for his own benefit. However, knowing his physical condition as he did, would Big Tom have overlooked anything as important as a will? She doubted it.

"I find I am married to a million-also stenographer."