

After A Man's Heart

by JEAN RANDALL

YESTERDAY... Buff goes to the ranch and finds a young man there. He says he has rented the place for a month.

Chapter Three

Return Engagement
"BUFF CARROLL," Buff told the young man, "is the hardest boiled proposition you'll meet west of the Mississippi. For example, she hasn't the remotest intention of letting Atkins—G.S.—get away with this sort of thing. Whatever you paid him will be refunded to you. And Atkins loses his job. Pronto!"

That brought him upright as he had intended.
"Don't tell me you're the Carroll girl! The one who climbs the highest peaks, rides the meanest horses, bosses her poor parents within an inch of their lives!"

"She winced but said valiantly: 'This true 'tis pity; and pity 'tis 'tis true.'"

He finished it for her with mournful relish: "And that he is mad, 'tis true. I must have been mad to believe a cowboy and a ranch owner could be named Atkins. An English butler in a play, yes; or even a Cockney clerk in something by Walpole; but never a Colorado rancher." He sighed. "I thought you Carrolls were safely in Chicago. You're a restless lot, aren't you? I suppose your father will be along tomorrow—"

"No, I came alone. To—to shut up the house, and one thing and another. Now I suppose I've got to go to the bother of finding a new foreman. Damn Atkins!"

He slumped back once more in the long chair. "Your profanity, my dear child, does not shock me—if such was your intention. It bores me. But then everything bores me at the present moment. Most of all, the terrible silence of this place."

Her brown eyes studied him closely. He looked ill, she thought; ill and unhappy. His clothes hung loose on his big frame, there were deep lines plowed on each side of his mouth. Her fingers itched to sketch that mouth. It was at once cynical and sensitive, though she was confident it had been made for laughter. She wondered what had set it in its present grim lines.

"I like the silence," she offered. "You will too when you've stayed long enough."

"Stay? But I can't. Didn't you just offer to refund my money? Anyhow I couldn't stay now if I wanted to."

This aroused her natural perversity. "I don't see why not! There is certainly room enough for us to both, if you're afraid to ask you to climb, or ride, or do any of the strenuous things I mentioned a while ago."

"The convent interrupted curtly.

"Pooh! Who cares about 'em out here? Anyway, there's Mrs. Webb. She's chaperon enough for a dozen people—if one weighs the conventions," she added for her own private amusement.

He turned a lack luster eye in her direction. "I remember now—you've written some one-act plays and skits for smart magazines. I don't think I'm strong enough to bear up under that sort of thing. In all you do, you seem to be what the doctor ordered. I'll be on my way as soon as I can pack."

"Dot!" she said cordially. "And you may have noticed that the sun goes down with a bang up here, especially this time of year. I don't want to hurry you—"

The screen door slammed on his retreating back.

Fat Mrs. Webb combined delighted greetings to Buff with regrets over losing the latest tenant of the ranch.
"I'd promised myself, Miss Buff, to put a little meat on them big bones of his before he left," she said earnestly. "If you ask me, he's a sick man—or will be, if he don't take care of himself. You send him off!"

Buff shook her head.

"As a matter of fact, I asked him to stay. But he didn't seem to care for my looks, or style of conversation, or something. What's his name, by the way?"

"Corliss. Timothy Corliss, his mail's addressed—P.O. Boulder. He ain't leaving without his supper, I hope!"

"Depends on your powers of persuasion, I should think. I'm going now to freshen up a bit for a meal of my own. I'm starved. Biscuits, Webby? With fresh butter and strawberry jam!"

"I'm off!"

WHEN she came down twenty minutes later, Tim Corliss awaited her, his bag at his feet.

"I'm off," he announced. "As you pointed out, it's getting late and that road of yours is pretty awful. Goodbye, Miss Carroll! So happy to have—"

"But the money!"

"What money?"

"The rent you paid Atkins. You can't go without letting me refund it. You haven't had value received, you know. Why," she demanded crossly, "can't you be sensible and stay over till morning at least?"

Then you could get a good start—if you're perfectly certain you want to go.

"He wrote her a bit uncertainly; not as though she figured at all in his plans, she realized, but as though he were turning some vague idea over in his mind. He seemed like a man to whom nothing was of any great importance at the moment, at least."

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On the Radio Chains

STATIONS
Where to Find Them on the Dial:
KEX, Portland, 1180; KFI, 640; Los Angeles; KGA, 1470; Spokane; KGO, 790; San Francisco; KGW, 620; Portland; KJR, 970; Seattle; KNX, 1050; Los Angeles; KOA, 830; Denver; KOIN, 940; Portland; KOMO, 920; Seattle; KPO, 630; San Francisco; KSL, 1180; Salt Lake.

Monday
5:30—Party, KPO, KFI, KGW; We Present, KGO, KEX, KJR.
5:30—Time and Tempo, KFI, KGW; The Almanac, KGO, KEX, KJR; Master Singers, KPO.
6:00—Roth's Orch., KGO, KEX; Radio Theater, KSL, KNX; Quiz Program, KPO, KGW, KFI.
6:30—Templeton Time, KPO, KGW, KFI; Martin's Orch., KEX; News, KJR.

Tuesday
5:30—The Aldrich Family, KPO, KFI, KGW.
5:30—Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, KGO, KEX, KJR; Tuesday Night Party, KSL; Held's Orch., KPO, KFI, KGW.
6:00—All American Music, KGO, KEX; Aurand's Orch., KNX, KSL; Melody and Madness, KPO, KGW, KFI.
6:30—Fibber McGee, KPO, KFI; Croaby's Orch., KNX, KSL; KOIN; Concert Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR.

Wednesday
7:00—News, KGO, KEX, KJR; Variety Program, KPO, KGW, KFI; Calling All Cars, KNX.
7:30—Dog House, KPO, KFI, KGW; If I Had the Chance, KGO, KEX, KJR; Sports Pop Offs, KNX, KOIN; News, KSL.

Thursday
8:00—Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KFI, KGW; Information Please, KGO, KEX, KJR.
8:15—Jimmy Fidler, KSL, KNX.

Friday
8:00—Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KFI, KGW; Information Please, KGO, KEX, KJR.
8:15—Jimmy Fidler, KSL, KNX.

Saturday
8:00—Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KFI, KGW; Information Please, KGO, KEX, KJR.
8:15—Jimmy Fidler, KSL, KNX.

Sunday
8:00—Amos and Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KFI, KGW; Information Please, KGO, KEX, KJR.
8:15—Jimmy Fidler, KSL, KNX.

KOIN: This Moving World, KGO, KEX.
9:00—Sherlock Holmes, KPO, KFI, KGW; Tune Up Time, KNX, KOIN; KSL; True or False, KGO, KEX, KJR.
9:30—Hawthorne House, KPO, KGW, KFI; Solista, KGO; Ballot Box, KNX, KJR.
10:00—News Reporter, KPO, KFI, KGW; Madriguera's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX; News, KSL, KNX; News, KOIN.
10:30—Foster's Orch., KPO, KGW, KFI; Dance Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX.
11:00—Ravazza's Orch., KPO, KFI; Organist, KEX; Barnett's Orch., KOIN, KSL; News, KGO, KNX, KGW.

KOIN: This Moving World, KGO, KEX.
9:00—Sherlock Holmes, KPO, KFI, KGW; Tune Up Time, KNX, KOIN; KSL; True or False, KGO, KEX, KJR.
9:30—Hawthorne House, KPO, KGW, KFI; Solista, KGO; Ballot Box, KNX, KJR.
10:00—News Reporter, KPO, KFI, KGW; Madriguera's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX; News, KSL, KNX; News, KOIN.
10:30—Foster's Orch., KPO, KGW, KFI; Dance Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX.
11:00—Ravazza's Orch., KPO, KFI; Organist, KEX; Barnett's Orch., KOIN, KSL; News, KGO, KNX, KGW.

KOIN: This Moving World, KGO, KEX.
9:00—Sherlock Holmes, KPO, KFI, KGW; Tune Up Time, KNX, KOIN; KSL; True or False, KGO, KEX, KJR.
9:30—Hawthorne House, KPO, KGW, KFI; Solista, KGO; Ballot Box, KNX, KJR.
10:00—News Reporter, KPO, KFI, KGW; Madriguera's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX; News, KSL, KNX; News, KOIN.
10:30—Foster's Orch., KPO, KGW, KFI; Dance Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX.
11:00—Ravazza's Orch., KPO, KFI; Organist, KEX; Barnett's Orch., KOIN, KSL; News, KGO, KNX, KGW.

KOIN: This Moving World, KGO, KEX.
9:00—Sherlock Holmes, KPO, KFI, KGW; Tune Up Time, KNX, KOIN; KSL; True or False, K