

FOR THE LOVE OF PAM

By VIVIAN GREY

Chapter 19

Broke

"WHAT do you mean?" Mrs. Winthrop's voice was suddenly tense, more tense than she had intended it to be.

"Just what I said, Adele. I'm broke. That's one of the things I came down here to tell you. I couldn't bear writing you bad news."

"I know you came down sooner than we expected you," she was looking at him doubtfully—"but, Bart, you can't mean this. Something of the seriousness of the thing bore in on her with startling suddenness. 'Why you couldn't! You wouldn't have let me go on with that big party tonight if you'd been really broke!'"

"Yes, I would, Adele. You were having such a grand time getting it together that I couldn't bear to stop you. A little money one way or the other doesn't make much difference."

"But you shouldn't have let me, Bart!"

Winthrop smiled indulgently. "You're feminine to the heart, Adele, and I admire you for it. But women always think in terms of petty money when they're saving, and then squander hopelessly when it comes to big things. What would the few hundreds you spent on that party mean to us when our liabilities run into hundreds of thousands?"

Mrs. Winthrop paled. "Bart, you frighten me!"

"I haven't meant to, Adele. I only wanted to be honest. And certainly this sets at rest my fear that our children may be married for their money."

"Is this really true, Dad?" Jerry asked. His own face had lost some of its color.

"Yes, Jerry. I'm sorry to say it. I feel as if I'd failed all of you, but—his hands moved in a gesture that was somehow pitiful and utterly new to Bart Winthrop—"it's gone beyond my ability to do anything."

"Why didn't you tell us sooner, Bart? Surely you must have seen this coming?" Adele Winthrop was sorry the moment the words were out, they brought such a wounded look to her husband's face.

"You know how things are in the market, Adele," he said gently after a little silence. "There's always a chance that one may recoup. Well, I just couldn't."

"Are you sure it's quite hopeless, dear? It may not be as you think. There may still be a chance." Adele wanted to encourage him, to make up for what she had just said.

"I wouldn't have told you if I'd thought there was any chance, Adele. I've waited as long as I've dared."

It was Adele who finally broke the brief silence that followed Bart's words.

"Just what is this going to mean to us?" she asked. "In immediate changes, I mean."

Plans

"THE help up home will stay until summer," Winthrop's voice was weary, as if he had gone over and over the thing to himself so many times that talking about it was tiresome. "I've put the place on the market. The yacht will remain here in the basin; the crew will stay until they can find other jobs. I've taken it upon myself, Adele, to rent a cottage here for the remainder of the winter. I need the sun. I'm run down after the last year's work here at the office doing what he can. I can trust him. If anyone can wrest anything from the wreck, he can. I've got to rest and forget there is such a thing as business. The chauffeur says he'll stay on in our cottage for the winter without pay, if we'll make a place for him."

"But can we? Can we afford it?" Adele asked quickly.

"Yes, And," with a wry grin. "He says he can cook. I thought it might be well to have someone like that around here. You haven't done any wrestling with pots and pans in so long, dear."

"I can cook, Bart! I'm a good cook!" Adele's thought sped back over the years to the Blodgett house in Shirley, where Tom Blodgett had lived during those days. He was proud of his daughter's cooking and often entertained bigwigs of the firm who came to look the Shirley plant over.

"Of course, I know you can, Adele," Winthrop said quickly. "I know you're a girl who can do anything she sets her mind to."

"Bart, it doesn't seem to me you're taking this as seriously as you should. I think we ought to let all of the help go. Not try to keep them in any way."

"Darling, you're not thinking now. Those people won't be able to walk right out and get other jobs. You and I have some responsibility to them. A roof and food, even without a salary, is

something. They'll have that as long as we can give it to them."

"I see what you mean. You're right, dear."

Jerry looked from his mother's troubled face to his father and wondered exactly what he saw there. His father did look tired. His searching eyes could see that. But he wondered that a completely broken man would carry on as his father was doing, almost smiling. He stood a little in awe of his father's courage.

"But, Bart, your mother..."

Adele began.

"I couldn't think of bothering her with this, dear. She's old."

Adele Winthrop started, wordless. This was all so revolutionary she could scarcely grasp it. The Winthrop money had seemed so secure. And it had been nice to be rich, not to have to figure how to get things. She looked back for a moment to her early days when money had been so hard to get, and shuddered inwardly.

"The money was just enough for a maid of some sort, and surely Lenore can step in and take most of the responsibility from you, Adele," Winthrop was saying in that faintly weary voice.

Lost Lenore

AT THE sound of her daughter's voice, Adele Winthrop started. Lenore wasn't in yet. She hadn't returned from the party and the yacht had been dark for over an hour. And you could circle the island a dozen times in an hour.

"I wonder where Lenore is?" she voiced the question. "She should be in."

"Isn't she?" Bart asked in surprise.

"Of course not!" Her concern made her almost impatient. Winthrop looked at his son. "Know where your sister is?" he asked.

Jerry's answer didn't come immediately. He thought he knew where Lenore was, but there was no use telling. He'd leave that to Lenore. Anyway, it was her life. "No, I don't, Dad," he said quietly, glad that he wasn't actually telling his father an untruth, because he really wasn't sure about Lenore. It was just a supposition. He wasn't sure it had been Lenore and Vin he had seen on the beach.

Winthrop looked at his wife. "These kids seem to have gotten out of hand down here. Lenore shouldn't be out this late without our knowing where she is."

"She's probably with Gervase," Mrs. Winthrop said placatingly. "She went with him, and he's all right. Maybe they stopped at Chico's on the way home, for a drink and bollos, or something. They like to think they're slumming. They have quaint ideas."

"I should think it would be quaint to want another drink after all that was washing about the boat. You could bathe in it. I think the blond Count did. I think that had taken the liberties I've given him a little too seriously. The bar bills signed by deBelleville that have poured in even since Lenore's been down here would turn a seaman green with envy of his royal capacity."

"Bart! But he's going to marry Lenore!"

"So I've heard. And not with any particular happiness."

"I'm sure it'll be all right, dear. At least Lenore is safely accounted for," Adele said anxiously.

"I wish I could be as sure of that as you are, Adele. That man accepts guest privileges altogether too willingly to suit me."

"Bart, it's just that you're nervous and upset and aren't seeing Gervase straight right now. Poor darling. You've gone through all this alone. Made all these arrangements, attended to all these hideous little details. You really should have told us, dear, and let us help you."

Jerry, who had been sitting silently by, paused on that. Help? Little help any of his family could have been to Mr. Winthrop. They had lived lavishly and elegantly. Blithely and carelessly. Never giving thought to where the money was coming from nor how eternal its stream might be.

"You know we'd all want to do what we could to help, Bart," Adele was repeating helplessly.

"I know, my dear, that you've always been the most understanding wife a man could hope to have. I've appreciated that. What we've got to do now to get these two kids looking at things straightly. That's our biggest job, Adele. I'm actually more concerned with that than about the money."

"Darling, I think you're taking their little peccadilloes too much to heart."

"I don't believe that's possible, Adele. Yesterday isn't soon enough to get your kids started right, get them pointed in the right direction."

"I don't see why they have to carry on as they have!" Adele Winthrop's voice was etched with impatience and concern. "You'd never believe they were our children, the way they run around with all kinds of people. I can't understand it. Neither you nor I are that way. Where do they get it?"

To be continued

On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:
Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:
KALE (NBS) 1330, Portland;
KEX (NBC-Blue) 1190, Portland;
KGA (NBC-Blue & MBS) 1310, Spokane;
KGO (NBC-Blue) 810, San Francisco;
KJR (NBC-Blue) 820, Portland;
KJL (NBC-Blue) 1070, Los Angeles;
KOA (NBC-Red) 850, Denver;
KON (CBS) 970, Portland;
KOMO (NBC-Red) 950, Seattle;
KPO (NBC-Red) 680, San Francisco;
KSL (CBS) 1160, Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PST

Monday

8:00 p.m.—Gordon Jenkins' Orch., KPO, KGO, KOMO: Adventure Stories, KGO, KEX.

8:30 p.m.—News of the World, KGO, KEX, KJR; Lee Sweetland, KPO, KOMO.

9:00 p.m.—Radio Theater, KEX, KOIN, KSL; Dr. I. Q. Jim McClain, KPO, KOMO, KGO.

9:30 p.m.—National Radio Forum, KGO, KJR, KEX; That Brewster Boy, KPO, KGO, KOMO.

10:00 p.m.—Mercury Theater, KEX, KOIN, KSL; Contented Hour, KPO, KGO, KOMO.

10:30 p.m.—Cavalcade of America, KPO, KGO, KOMO; Blondie, KEX, KOIN, KSL; Blue Varieties, KGO, KJR.

11:00 p.m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KEX.

11:30 p.m.—Bob Crosby's Orch., KEX, Dance Orch., KPO, KOMO, KGO, News, KGO.

12:00 p.m.—Adventure Stories, KGO, KJR, KEX; Gordon Jenkins' Orch., KPO.

12:30 p.m.—News of the World, KGO, KJR, KEX; News, KEX, KOIN; Horace Heidt's Treasure Chest, KPO, KOMO, KGO.

1:00 p.m.—Irene Wicker, KGO; Scandinavian Reporter, KJR.

1:30 p.m.—News, Here and Abroad, KGO, KEX; Report to the Nation, KEX, KOIN; Fibber McGee, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Old Times, KJR.

7:00 p.m.—Bob Hope Variety

KOIN, KSL; Fred Waring, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Basin Street Chamber Music, KGO, KEX.

8:30 p.m.—Ray Heatherton's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; Voice, KPO, KGO, KOMO; Gay Nineties Revue, KEX, KSL, KOIN.

9:00 p.m.—Telephone Hour, KPO, KGO, KJR, KEX; True or False, KGO, KJR, KEX; What's on Your Mind, KEX, KOIN, KSL.

9:30 p.m.—Hawthorne House, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Gene Krupa's Orch., KGO, KEX.

10:00 p.m.—Joe Engelhart and Melody Weavers, KEX; Reporter News, KPO, KGO, KOMO; Five Star Final, KPO, KGO, KOMO; Five Star Final, KOIN.

10:30 p.m.—Ed Stocker's Music, KOMO; Concert Hall, KPO, Eyes of the World, KOIN.

11:00 p.m.—Bob Crosby's Orch., KEX; Dance Orch., KPO, KOMO, KGO; News, KGO.

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7:00 p.m.—Bob Hope Variety

show, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Treasury Hour, KGO, KEX, KJR; Glenn Miller's Orch., KOIN, KSL, KEX.

7:30 p.m.—College Humor, KPO, KGO, KOMO; Juan Arvizu, KOIN, KSL, KEX.

8:00 p.m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KEX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KPO, KGO, KJR, KGO.

8:30 p.m.—Johnny Presents, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Information Please, KGO, KEX, KJR; Are You a Missing Heir, KEX, KOIN, KSL.

9:00 p.m.—We, the People, KEX, KOIN, KSL; Easy Aces, KGO, KJR, KEX.

9:30 p.m.—Battle of the Sexes, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Arkansas Traveler, KEX, Nat'l Radio Forum, KGO; News, KJR.

10:00 p.m.—Johnny Duff's Orch., KEX; Reporter News, KPO, KGO, KOMO; Five Star Final, KJR.

10:30 p.m.—Bill Henry, KEX, KOIN; Dance Orch., KOMO, KGO; Concert Hall, KPO.

11:00 p.m.—Dance Orch., KPO, KOMO; Bob Crosby's Orch., KEX, KSL; News, KGO; Fishing News, KJR.

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