

# NO TIME FOR LOVE

By WATKINS WRIGHT

## Chapter 23 Cool Reception

IT COULDN'T BE! She was seeing things. Maybe she had stayed in the sun too long that day. Maybe she had a touch of sun-stroke.

"Lavinia—darling!" Rod cried.

"Oh," said Lavinia, "it's you."

Just like that—motivated by a perverseness she herself couldn't understand.

Rod was beside her. She was in his arms. He was holding her close. She thought: "He can't do this to me. He can't tell me to forget that he took me in his arms and kissed me, and then come and take me in his arms again. Who does he think I am?"

Then suddenly, almost roughly, she freed herself.

"Am I supposed to forget that also?" she said.

"Lavinia—please—"

"I was expecting my aunt, anyway," Lavinia rushed on.

"She sent me in her place," Rod said.

"You mean you've met her?"

"Yes, we came down from Harbor Head together."

"She went there?"

"She wanted to know what made you leave so suddenly."

"And I suppose you told her—"

"I did," said Rod. "I told her everything. And now I've come to take you back to New York. We're going to be married right away, darling, and then—"

"Oh, we are, are we?" Lavinia flared. "Just like that it seems to me you're taking an awful lot for granted."

"Please, Lavinia, don't take that tone," Rod begged. "I can explain everything. Just give me a chance."

All of a sudden Lavinia was angry, unreasonably angry. She had an unexplainable desire to hurt Rod, to make him suffer—remembering how he had hurt and humiliated her.

"If you think you can walk out on me," she said, "and then barge right back into my life, expecting me to— to— welcome you with open arms, you're badly mistaken." She looked wildly about until she located the driver.

"Andy!" she called.

"Yes, Miss Prentiss," Andy came bustling up.

"My aunt's not coming," Lavinia said. "So we can go back to the farm now."

"Yes'm," Andy eyed Rod. "Is this here gentleman going out to the farm too?"

"I'm sure I don't know," said Lavinia.

"Of course I am," said Rod. "Will you please put that bag in the car?"

"It ain't a car," said Andy. "It's a station wagon."

The three of them went around back of the depot and got into the wagon. Andy drove off. Lavinia sat staring straight ahead of her, and Rod, sitting beside her, admired her profile.

"It's only fair that you give me an opportunity to explain," he said softly.

"Nobody's stopping you," said Lavinia.

"All right, Lavinia. You see, I—"

"But I hardly think Andy wants to hear the explanation," said Rod.

"Oh," said Rod. "Well, I'll keep—"

"And you'll have more time to think up new angles," said Lavinia.

"I don't need any time for that," Rod said. "But I suppose it would be better to talk after we get to the farm. It's a long story, and—"

"And you're probably stuck with it," said Lavinia.

"Lavinia," said Rod as they crossed the yard.

"Yes?"

"You're adorable."

Lavinia ignored the compliment. "Here's the arbor," she said, and walked in.

Rod sat down beside her. Presently he was pouring out to her all that he had told Aunt Dorcas. Lavinia hardened herself at first, but when she let herself picture the horrors of Dunkirk, when she let herself see Rod in the midst of those horrors, her hardness lessened. However, she said nothing. She just let Rod talk.

"And that," said Rod, "is my story—the one you said I was probably stuck with."

"I'm sorry," said Lavinia, "I was rude—"

"You had a right to be," said Rod.

"No! No!" Lavinia's eyes were wide, her heart beating wildly. "I had no idea it— it— was like that with you, Rod."

"And you don't think it's a sort of fair-tale I made up?"

"Of course not!" said Lavinia. "But Rod, why didn't you tell me before?"

"I tried to explain why just now," Rod said. "You see, darling, I was afraid you might feel you should make a sacrifice and take care of me. I mean, I had the feeling that you were beginning to care for me, and that if I told you the story I've just told you, you'd insist that I needed you—and— and— oh, you do understand, don't you?"

"Yes," said Lavinia. "I think I do." She was silent for a moment. "But that was a cruel thing to do to me—leave me so abruptly. It's something I find hard to forget and forgive."

"I know," said Rod. "I realize that now. But the moment I got the doctor's verdict, and the news that I am to have a good job, I hurried to you." He tried to take Lavinia's hand but she pulled it away. "You will go on loving me, won't you, Lavinia? Now that everything's worked out so wonderfully, you'll marry me, won't you?"

## Phone Call

"I DON'T know," said Lavinia. "I—I can't seem to make up my mind."

"Oh!" said Rod suddenly. "Fred, my friend, is he up here?"

"Good heavens, no!" said Lavinia. "What ever gave you that idea?"

"Thank God," said Rod fervently. "We heard he'd gone away for a few days, Aunt Dorcas and I. We were afraid he was here with you—that you'd eloped."

"No one knew I was here," said Lavinia. "I decided to come while I was in a taxicab on my way to the apartment. So I told the driver to turn right around and take me back to the station." She looked at Rod. "I suppose you did some detective work to find me, you and Aunt Dorcas."

"Your friend Zoe gave us a clue," said Rod.

"You've met her too?" Lavinia gasped. "My, but you do get around, don't you?"

"Zoe remembered how you liked to come up here to Hull," Rod went on. "So we all put two and two together—and here I am."

"Yes, he is here," said Lavinia. "Just when I was growing reconciled to go back to Armworth's."

"Meaning you're no longer reconciled to do that?"

"Oh, Rod, I don't know—I don't know," Lavinia wailed. "When a girl has worked as long and as hard as I have to get where she is, she just can't throw everything away."

"But, I'll make it up to you, darling," said Rod. "We'll go out to Michigan together, and we'll have an apartment. I'll buy a little car. We'll have fun."

"When do you go?" Lavinia asked.

"I'm expecting to hear about the job any day—expecting them to send for me. I want you to go out there with me."

There was a footfall just outside the arbor.

"You in there, Miss Prentiss?" Mr. Stone asked. "Your aunt's calling again. She's on the wire now."

Lavinia jumped to her feet.

"Excuse me, Rod," she said.

"I'll go along with you," Rod said.

They followed Mr. Stone back to the house. Rod sank down on the porch, and lit a cigarette.

"Hello Aunt Dorcas!" Lavinia said. "Is there anything wrong?"

"No, of course not," said Miss Dorcas, "except you scared the living daylight out of me—running off like you did. Is Rod there?"

"Yes."

"Well, listen, Lavinia, if you don't marry him, I'll—I'll—"

"Is that what you called up to tell me?"

"Yes, it is. If I were twenty years younger, I'd marry the man myself. Don't forget what I told you about my misunderstanding."

"Aunt Dorcas," said Lavinia. "Tell me something—and I want the absolute truth."

"I always tell the truth," said Aunt Dorcas. "Except on very special occasions."

"I'm serious, Aunt Dorcas."

"So am I. What is it you want to know?"

To be continued

## On the Radio Chains

Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:

8:00 p. m.—News Here and Abroad. KGO, KJR; Modern Music Box, KEX.

8:30 p. m.—Guis Kids, KGO, KEX, KJR; Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Point Sublime, KPO, KOW, KOMO.

8:15 p. m.—Lanny Ross, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

8:30 p. m.—Dr. Christian, KNX, KOIN; Plantation Party, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Manhattan at Midnight, KGO, KJR, KEX; News, KSL.

9:00 p. m.—Time to Smile, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Easy Area, KGO, KEX, KJR; Fred Allen, KOIN, KNX; Hymn Service, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Bain Street Chamber Music, KGO; Mr. District Attorney, KPO, KOMO, KOW; News, KJR, KSL; Moonlight Sonata, KEX.

10:00 p. m.—Reporter News, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Phil Harris' Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; News, KNX, KOIN; Masterworks of Music, KSL.

10:30 p. m.—Tommy Dorsey's Orch., KGO, KOMO; Howard Becker's Orch., KSL; Henry Busse's Orch., KGW; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Serenade, KSL; Masterworks of Music, KNX; The World Today, KOIN; Concert Hall, KPO.

11:00 p. m.—Bill Clifford's Orch., KPO, KOW; La Gluskin's Orch., KGO, KOMO; This Moving World, KJR, KEX; News, KNX, KGO; Evening Reveries, KOMO.

Hour, KGO, KEX, KJR; Kay Kyser's Musical Quiz, KPO, KOW, KOMO.

7:30 p. m.—News Here and Abroad. KGO, KJR; Modern Music Box, KEX.

8:00 p. m.—Guis Kids, KGO, KEX, KJR; Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Point Sublime, KPO, KOW, KOMO.

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11:00 p. m.—Bill Clifford's Orch., KPO, KOW; La Gluskin's Orch., KGO, KOMO; This Moving World, KJR, KEX; News, KNX, KGO; Evening Reveries, KOMO.

Thursday

8:00 p. m.—Adventure Stories, KGO, KJR; Death Valley Days, KSL; Adventures in Toyland, KEX; Stars of Today, KOW; Ken Stevens and Erwin Yo, KNX; Eyes of the World, KOIN; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO.

8:30 p. m.—News of the World, KEX, KGO, KJR; Duffy's Tavern, KSL; Ricardo's Rhapsodies, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Bill Henry, KNX, KOIN.

8:00 p. m.—Major Bowes Original Amateur Hour, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Bing Crosby, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Secret City, KGO, KEX; Victory Chorus, KJR.

8:30 p. m.—Big Town, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Joe Gallicchio's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX.

7:00 p. m.—Glen Miller's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL; Al Pearce's Gant, KPO, KOMO, KOW; Rudy Vallee Frpm. KGO, KEX, KJR.

7:30 p. m.—Red Ryder, KGO; Frank Fay, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Streamlined Fairy Tales, KEX; Captain Quiz, KJR.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Fred Waring, KOMO, KPO, KGW; March of Time, KJR, KGO, KEX.

8:15 p. m.—Lum and Abner, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Lanny Ross, KNX, KOIN, KSL.

8:30 p. m.—Maude's Diary, KNX, KOIN; Saunders of Circle X, KGO, KEX; Coffee Time, KPO, KOMO, KOW; News, KSL; Flowers for the

Li-Ing, KEX; Victory Chorus, KJR.

9:00 p. m.—Easy Area, KGO, KEX, KJR; Duffy's Tavern, KNX, KOIN; Aldrich Family, KPO, KOIN, KOW.

9:30 p. m.—Elery Quee, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Harold St. kes' Orch., KGO; Death Valley Days, KNX, KOIN; News, KSL, KJR; Moonlight Sonata, KEX.

10:00 p. m.—America's Town Meeting of the Air, KEX, KGO, FJR; Reporter News, KPO, KOMO, KOW; News, KNX; Masterworks of Music, KSL; Five Star Final, KOIN.

10:30 p. m.—Reid Tanner, KSL.

Masterworks of Music, KNX; The World Today, KOIN.

11:00 p. m.—Etchings in Brass, KPO, KOW; This Moving World, KEX, KGO, KJR; Wilbur Hatch's Orch., KSL, KOIN; News, KNX, KGO.

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The arrangement contemplates pooling the "entire munition resources of Great Britain and the United States," the pooling in principle of their shipping resources, and a "planned and expeditious utilization" of raw materials.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

## WAR BOARDS FORMED BY BRITAIN AND U.S.

Washington, Jan. 28.—(P)—The creation of three new British-American war boards to assure the most efficient utilization of munitions, shipping, and raw materials was announced today by the White House.

The arrangement contemplates pooling the "entire munition resources of Great Britain and the United States," the pooling in principle of their shipping resources, and a "planned and expeditious utilization" of raw materials.

Use Mail Tribune want ads.

## THE WORLD AT ITS WORST

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS



WITH THE FAMILY FREEZING AND SHOUTING FOR PITY'S SAKE TO SHUT THAT DOOR, JUNIOR AT LONG LAST REPORTS THAT HIS SLED SEEMS TO BE WEDGED IN IT TIGHT AND WHAT HAD HE BETTER DO?

## TAILSPIN TOMMY—in the Zone of Fire!

"SKEETS AND HIS FELLOW PRISONER, BLASTED OUT OF A GUARD HOUSE AT CAMP MIX BY THE FIRST EXPLOSION OF THE BIG POWDER PLANT, ADJACENT TO THE POST, CAN REASON ONLY ONE THING—IT IS AN ENEMY INVASION OF OUR SHORES!"

"S-S-S-CRAM!! IT...IT'S A... AN ENEMY TANK!!"

"THAT LOOKS LIKE SKEETER. WE'VE GOT T-TO PICK HIM UP...OOH! HOW D-DO I S-STOP T-THIS THING?"

"S-SUFFERIN' CATS! THEY...THEY'RE AFTER ME!"

"AN' I...THOUGHT I'D FIGHT F-FOR M-MY C-COUNTRY... IN TH' AIR!!"

"A HUGE SHELL SUDDENLY RIPS INTO THE EARTH... BETWEEN SKEETS AND THE TANK! THE SHOCK SNAPS THE FLYER OUT OF HIS DEADLY LETHARGY!"

"AND SKEETER FLEES... FROM PROTECTION TO ALMOST CERTAIN DOOM!"



## L'L ABNER—When a Barnsmell Loves!

"AH JEST HAD A L'L TALK WIF BIG BARNSMELL. FO' YO', CHILE!"

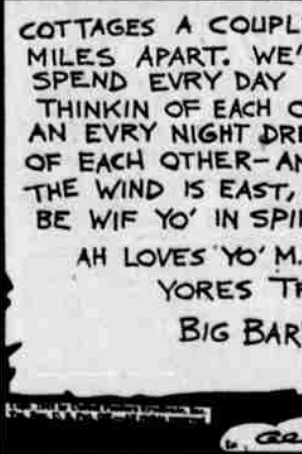
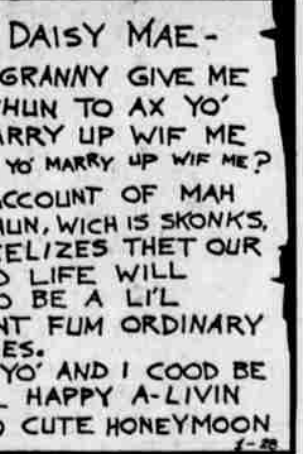
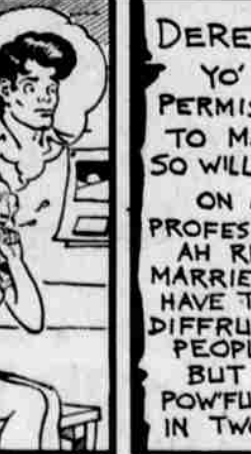
"DERE DAISY MAE - YO' GRANNY GIVE ME PERMISHUN TO AX YO' TO MARRY UP WIF ME SO WILL YO' MARRY UP WIF ME?"

"ON ACCOUNT OF MAH PROFESSHUN, WICH IS SKONKS, AH REELIZES THET OUR MARRIED LIFE WILL HAVE TO BE A L'L DIFFRUNT FUM ORDINARY PEOPLES. BUT YO' AND I COOD BE POWFUL HAPPY A-LIVIN IN TWO CUTE HONEYMOON."

"COTTAGES A COUPLE OF MILES APART. WE'LL SPEND EVRY DAY THINKIN OF EACH OTHER, AN EVRY NIGHT DREAMIN OF EACH OTHER—AN WHEN THE WIND IS EAST, AH'LL BE WIF YO' IN SPIRIT. AH LOVES YO' MADLY YORES TRULY - BIG BARNSMELL"

"AH CALLS THET PROPOSAL A HUMDINGER?"

"T-TELL HIM- THET UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS, AH (G-SOBBS) ACCEP'S!!"



## THE NEBBS—Where the Hand Is Quicker Than the Eye

"CRIMMINY, RUDY, WHERED YOU COME FROM ALL OF A SUDDEN?"

"WHAT DIFFERENCE WHER I CAME FROM? THE PAINFUL FACT IS I WAS AT THE RIGHT PLACE TO CATCH THE WALLOP THAT WAS TOSSED AT YOU!"

"YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO PLAY PEEKA-BOO WITH ME, ARE YOU?"

"NO... THAT GUY THAT AMBROSE POTTS FIRED WAS GOING AFTER HIM... I TRIED TO SEPARATE THEM... HE TOOK A SWING AT POTTS AND HIT ME!"

"WOW! WHAT A BLACKOUT! HE MIGHTVE MISSED AMBROSE, BUT HE SURE HIT THE JACK POT!"



## Pearl Harbor Widows Will Seek Revenge by Aiding Plane Making

Long Beach, Cal., Jan. 28.—(P)—Sixty Pearl harbor widows have applied for jobs in an air plant with the motto "Keep 'em flying to avenge our husbands' deaths."

"We feel that we should do all we can to carry on the work and the cause for which our husbands so nobly gave their lives at Pearl harbor," said Mrs. Fern Evans. Her husband, W. C. Evans, chemist's mate, third class, was reported lost in action at sea.

"Aircraft work is one way of

doing our part. We are determined to do our share in the war effort that must go on and on until our loved ones are avenged and the final victory is won."

Sixty widows and a gold star mother took aptitude tests yesterday for positions at Lockheed and Vega aircraft corps.

Paul M. Kenefick, in charge, said the tests "showed that these women as a group were far superior to those who have contacted us at our regular employment offices."

Fort Lewis, Jan. 28.—(P)—The army announced today Pvt. Wayne T. Brandy, Jr., 23, of Dayton, Ohio, shot himself to death Sunday. No other details were announced by the army.