

UNFAIR TO LOVE

By Watkins E. Wright

Chapter 17

Sentimental Nonsense!

PAUL PENNELL came out. He had removed his mustache, and was smoking a cigarette in a long holder.

"Hello, Kathleen!" he said. "Hello, Joe!"

"Hello!" said Joe. "Do you feel avuncular toward us all?"

"Oh, no," said Paul. "I step out of my role entirely when the curtain falls."

"You discard it like an old rag," said Ruby.

"Right!" said Paul. He frowned at Ruby. "But I never wear it like one." He turned to Kathleen.

"I hear the plans are all made for the barbecue. I'm as excited about it as a kid. Almost like looking forward to the coming of a circus."

"I hope," said Joe, "there won't be too much clowning."

Ruby laughed. Paul looked annoyed.

A voice called to them from the inside.

"Curtain in three minutes!" it said.

"See you after the show," said Ruby. She hurried off, tossing aside her cigarette.

"Stick around," Paul said to Kathleen. "Maybe we can manage cold drinks. You know we're running a refreshment stand in connection with the theatre."

He laughed a bit too gaily. "May help keep us out of the red."

"They look pretty awful in stage makeup, don't they?" said Joe. "I mean—anywhere but on the stage."

"Oh, I don't know," said Kathleen. "They sort of fascinate me."

"They would," said Joe. "Come on, let's climb back into the hayloft."

"I wish," said Kathleen, "that you'd forget it was a barn for at least five minutes."

"All right, honey, I will," said Joe. "For exactly five minutes."

Once more they climbed the narrow steps to the balcony where had once been a place wherein was stored. Once more they sat down. And once more Joe felt for and found Kathleen's hand.

But this time she jerked it away.

After The Show

WHEN the final curtain fell upon the play, the audience seemed to be in no hurry to leave. A number of people went over to the refreshment stand about which Paul had told Kathleen and Joe. Several members of the theatrical company were working there. Daisy Doran was one of them. She had not appeared in the last act, and now, wearing slacks and a shirt, she was behind an improvised counter, selling soft drinks. The juvenile was with her.

Joe saw them and smiled, noting how the girls were all patronizing the juvenile's end of the counter, while the men clustered around Daisy.

"Let's get a drink," Joe said to Kathleen. "I'm thirsty."

"Thanks," said Kathleen. She and Joe went over and joined the crowd. There was laughter, gay chatter, and now and then a snatch of song. One man had poured whiskey into his lemonade, and was feeling extraordinarily good-humored. The girl with him was trying very hard to make him quiet down.

"Hello, Daisy!" said Joe.

"Oh, hello, Joe, honey!" said Daisy. "I thought I saw you in the audience tonight."

"You bet I was there," said Joe. "Have to write my review."

"Goodness, and I was simply awful! I really should have had the lead, while I wasn't mature enough."

"You weren't so awful," said Joe—and caught himself.

"Faint praise is worse than none at all," said Daisy sadly. "I suppose I'll have to take what you say about me, and like it. But just wait until I play that little Southern gal in the Civil War play we're going to try out!"

"Okay, I'll wait," said Joe. He paid for the drinks and took them over to where Kathleen was waiting. "It seems," he said, "that little Daisy Doran is going to play a Southern gal."

"No!" said Kathleen, shocked. "With that New Jersey voice of hers!"

"Let's sit down over by that big tree," Joe suggested. "Remember the linked hearts carved upon it?"

"I do," said Kathleen. "Sentimental nonsense, and cruelty to trees!"

The tree was quite a distance from the barn, and the people circulating about it. And as Joe sat down, he thought how incongruous it was to see all those brightly-dressed people moving around a building which had, in the past, been wrapped in darkness at such a late hour.

"What's the matter, can't you talk?" Kathleen asked, presently.

"Sure I can talk," said Joe. "I was just thinking about how things had changed."

"What things?"

"This scene, for one."

"I like it this way."

"I don't. I much prefer the cows and the chickens."

"That's probably because you're a rustic at heart."

"And that's a mighty nice thing to be," said Joe. He saw a female figure detach itself from a group and move toward them.

"Here comes Ruby. Shall we ask her to join us?"

"What things?"

"This scene, for one."

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On the Radio Chains

Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:
KALE (MBS) 1330, Portland.
KEX (NBC-Blue) 1190, Portland.
KEX (NBC-Blue & MBS) 1510, Spokane.
KJAO (NBC-Blue) 810, San Francisco.
KJW (NBC-Red) 670, Portland.
KJW (NBC-Blue) 1000, Seattle.
KJW (NBC-Red) 1070, Los Angeles.
KJW (NBC-Red) 850, Denver.
KJW (NBC-Red) 870, Portland.
KJW (NBC-Red) 950, Seattle.
KJW (NBC-Red) 680, San Francisco.
KSL (CBS) 1160, Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PST

Monday

5:00 p. m.—Floyd Wright, KOMO; Vox Pop, KSL, KNX, KOIN; Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR; Stars of Today, KGW; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO.

5:30 p. m.—Harry W. Flannery, KNX, KOIN; Voice, KPO, KOMO; Voices of Yesterday, KSL.

6:00 p. m.—Radio Theater, KNX, KOIN; KSL; Busy in Wonder Land, KPO, KOMO; Music by White, KGO, KEX, KJR; Before the Bombers Come, KGW.

6:30 p. m.—Your Blind Date, KGO; Dr. I. Q. Jim McLean, KPO, KGW, KOMO, News, KEX.

7:00 p. m.—Lightning Jim, KGO, KJR, KEX; Contented Hour, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Freddy Martin's Orch., KNX, KOIN, KSL.

7:30 p. m.—Blondie, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Cavalcade of America, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Jimmie Fidler, KGO, KEX, KJR.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Fred Waring, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Carmen Cavallaro's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX.

8:15 p. m.—Irene Rich, KGO, KEX, KJR; Les Brown's Orch., KSL, KOIN; Lum and Abner, KPO, KOMO; Time Out for Melody, KNX.

8:30 p. m.—I Love a Mystery, KGO, KEX, KJR; Hawthorne House, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Gay Nineties Revue, KNX, KSL, KOIN.

9:00 p. m.—Telephone Hour, KPO, KGW, KOMO; News Here and Abroad, KGO; I Was There, KNX, KOIN, KSL; Down Memory Lane, KEX; Treasury Star Parade, KJR.

9:30 p. m.—Hollywood Showcase, KNX, KOIN; Unfinished Horizons, KOMO, News, KSL, KJR, KEX; Let There Be Music, KGO; Your Mayor Speaks, KGW; Toast to American Allies, KPO.

10:00 p. m.—Ran Wilde's Orch., KGO, KEX, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Masterworks of Music, KSL; News, KNX; Five Star Final, KOIN.

10:30 p. m.—Ed Stoker's Music, KOMO; Harry James' Orch., KGO, KJR; Alvino News Orch., KSL; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; Moonlight Sonata, KGW; Sports, KNX; War Time Women, KOIN; Unlimited Horizons, KPO.

11:00 p. m.—Wilbur Hatch's Orch., KSL, KOIN; Music and Moonlight, KPO; This Moving World, KEX, KJR; News, KGO; Beach Orch., KGW; News, KNX; Reveries, KOMO.

Tuesday

5:00 p. m.—Are you a Missing Bel? KSL; News, KOIN; Afternoon Dances, KNX; Musical Portraits, KOMO; Flying Patrol, KEX, KGO, KJR; Stars of Today, KGW; Don Winslow of the Navy, KPO.

5:30 p. m.—Harry W. Flannery, KEX, KJR; Band Review, KGO; Bob Burns Show, KSL; Clete Roberts Reports, KEX, KGO, KJR; Horace Heidt's Treasure Chest, KPO, KOMO, KGW.

6:00 p. m.—Burns and Allen, KPO, KGW, KOMO; American Melody Hour, KNX, KSL; Serenade for You, KEX; Voice of Victory, KGO; Dance Time, KJR; Leon F. Drews, KOIN.

6:30 p. m.—Fibber McGee, KPO, KOMO, KGW; This Nation at War, KGO, KJR; Report to the Nation, KNX, KOIN; News, KEX.

7:00 p. m.—Counter Spy, KGO, KEX, KJR; Music in the Night, KNX, KOIN; Bob Hope, KPO, KOMO, KGW.

7:30 p. m.—Red Skelton, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Red Ryder, KGO, KJR, KEX; Public Affairs, KSL, KOIN; Time Out for Melody, KNX.

8:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KNX, KSL, KOIN; Three Ring Time, KGO, KJR; Fred Waring in Pleasure Time, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Air Base Hi Jinks, KEX.

8:15 p. m.—Lum and Abner, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Glenn Miller's Orch., KNX, KSL, KOIN.

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

9:00 p. m.—Duffy's Tavern, KNX, KOIN, KSL; News Here and Abroad, KGO, KEX, KJR; The Thin Man, KPO, KGW, KOMO; Down Memory Lane, KEX; Musicale, KJR.

9:30 p. m.—Harry James' Orch., KGO, KJR; Battle of the Saxes, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Bob Burns Show, KNX, KOIN; News, KEX.

10:00 p. m.—Capat Rumba Revue, KGO, KEX, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KOMO, KGW; Masterworks of

Music, KSL; News, KNX; Five Star Final, KOIN.

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