



by WATKINS E. WRIGHT

Loris Raymond has come to New York with dreams of a musical career but, after several months, she has failed to get a job and is in desperate financial straits. Carey Carson, a young would-be architect, is also badly in need of a job. They meet often at an employment agency and become good friends. Then, the manager of the agency, Sam Murphy, tells them of a summer job for a young married couple as caretakers on the Long Island estate of a wealthy old bachelor, Roland Potter, who is going away on a yacht cruise. Murphy suggests that Carey and Loris marry temporarily in order to get the job. They agree to the plan on a strictly business basis. A few days later, they're married, then are introduced to Mr. Potter. He likes them and hires them. The next day, he drives them out to his place and leaves them there.

CHAPTER VIII

THE next few days were busy ones for Loris and Carey. They familiarized themselves with the layout of the house, decided on what days to clean what rooms, and how much leisure they could give themselves for music and drawing. Then there were the feeding periods for the canaries and the fish, and the days when the cages and aquariums were to be scrubbed.

"There's going to be plenty for us to do," said Carey. "But I'm glad I'll be a big relief having an incentive for getting up in the mornings."

"And what a joy to get up in the country!" said Loris.

Then there was the business of getting the little car into good shape. Carey spent nearly a whole day going over it, dusting, polishing, and giving the engine a thorough overhauling.

"How about a drive to the village?" he said to Loris, on their fourth day at Pottersplace.

"I'd love it," said Loris. "I want to buy a money order to send to my landlady for my back rent."

"Reckon I'll buy a money order too," said Carey. "My landlady could use some back rent."

UPON reaching Lindenbrook, they decided to do some marketing also. They had been buying what they needed each day from a little crossroads store not far from Pottersplace, but things cost less in the village.

"Let's blow ourselves," said Carey. "and get a thick steak. Or do you like your steak thin? Most girls do, I hear."

"No, I like mine thick," said Loris. "And not too well-done."

"Goosh, a girl after my own heart!"

They bought the steak. They also got some mushrooms and onions. "We'll have our own onions before the summer is over," Carey said, "but I'm hungry for some now. Many a time I've said, if I ever got on my financial legs again, I was going to gorge myself on steak smothered in onions and mushrooms."

"Let's forget times like those," Carey said. "I went through them, too—living on peanut butter and crackers."

When their purchases were all made, Carey suggested that they take a drive about the country before going home. Loris, business-like, looked at her watch and said she supposed they could spare the time.

"Only we mustn't be late to feed the canaries and the fish," Carey chuckled. "Funny thing—I dreamed the other night that we made a mistake and gave the bird seed to the fish, and the fish food to the birds."

"What happened?" Loris asked.

"The fish all started singing, and the birds when they swam in the lake," Loris laughed. "Well for Pete's sake, be careful after this!"

THEY sped along a wide road that now and then bordered the Sound. About ten miles from Pottersplace, they saw a roadhouse being repainted and shined up.

"Maybe we can go there for dancing when it opens," said Carey. "How about it?"

"It would be fun," said Loris. "Heavens, I can't remember the last time I danced."

"You can't!" Carey glanced at the girl beside him. "I'll bet you dance like nobody's business."

"I'm not so worse, if I do say so as shouldn't!" Loris laughed.

She felt oddly carefree. She loved the open air, the smell of the sea, the blue of the sky.

"Then it's a date!" said Carey. "We dance just as soon as the place opens."

Loris nodded, and smiled. It would be fun dancing with Carey. In fact, it was fun doing anything with him. How remarkably they got along together! But maybe she had better knock wood. She did so.

TWILIGHT was slipping in and out of the grounds around Pottersplace, when they returned. They carried their bundles in through the rear door, and placed them in the kitchen.

"Hungry?" asked Loris.

"I'm always hungry out here," said Carey.

"Then, I suppose we fix the steak just as soon as we've fed the birds and fish."

A little later in the big kitchen, they worked side by side. Carey broiled the steak. Loris prepared the mushrooms. They opened a can of asparagus, and unwrapped an apple.

"Shall we eat in the dining room or out here?" Loris asked, when everything was ready.

"Out here," said Carey. "It's sort of cozy and homelike. The dining room's too formal. We'll save that for a celebration."

"What sort of celebration?"

"Oh, birthdays, maybe. Surely one of us will have a birthday before the summer is over."

"I won't," said Loris. "I was born in February."

"And I was born in April," said Carey. "Darn! Well, we'll have to celebrate our anniversary."

"What anniversary?"

"Wedding. You know—each month!"

Loris said nothing. She bent forward to cut the steak. Carey watched her, admiring the way the light did fetching things to her blonde hair.

"You know something?" he said. "Several things," said Loris. "But not just how many mushrooms you want."

"Plenty! What I mean, Loris, is that I was thinking how swell it would be if all this were real."

"Real?" Loris looked up. "It is." "I mean if we actually owned this place," Carey went on. "And were—well, in love—facing life together—until death do us part."

"Pass your plate," said Loris.

Carey sighed. "You certainly can knock the romance right out from under a fellow."

"Then eat your steak and get back your equilibrium," Loris retorted. "And please remember, Carey, that this is a game of let's pretend. Just that, and nothing more. You married me for a job, and—"

"And don't forget you married me for the same reason," Carey cut in.

"I won't," said Loris, more sharply than she intended. "See that you don't!"

(To be continued)

(The characters in this serial are fictitious.)

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On the Radio Chains

STATIONS:
Chain affiliation and where they are on the dial:
KALE (MBS) 1330, Portland;
KEX (NPS Blue) 1190, Portland;
KGA (NBC Blue & MBS) 1210, Spokane;
KGO (NBC-Blue) 810, San Francisco;
KJW (NBC-Blue) 620, Portland;
KJR (NBC-Blue) 1070, Los Angeles;
KOA (NBC-Red) 850, Denver;
KOIN (CBS) 970, Portland;
KOMO (NBC-Red) 950, Seattle;
KPO (NBC-Red) 680, San Francisco;
KSL (CBS) 1160, Salt Lake City.

Time shown is PWT

Sunday

5:00 p. m.—Song Shop Romance, KGO; Hello America, KSL, KOIN, KXK, Edgar Bergen, KPO, KGO, KOMO; Christian Science Prgm., KEX; Gospel Clinic, KJR.

5:30 p. m.—Stars from the Blue, KGO, KEX, KJR; William Winter, KXK, KOIN, KSL; One Man's Family, KPO, KOW, KOMO.

6:00 p. m.—Manhattan Merry-Go-Round, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Radio Reader's Digest, KXK, KOIN; Show of Yesterday and Today, KGO, KJR, KEX.

6:30 p. m.—American Album of Familiar Music, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Fred Allen, KXK, KSL; Inner Sanctum Mystery, KGO, KJR, KEX.

7:00 p. m.—Hour of Charm, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Goodwill Hour, KGO, KEX, KJR; Take It or Leave It, KXK, KOIN, KSL.

7:30 p. m.—Report to the Nation, KOIN, KSL; Winchell, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Ingwood Park Concert, KXK.

8:00 p. m.—Crime Doctor, KXK, KOIN; Great Gildersleeve, KGO, KOMO, KGO; Earl Godwin, KGO, KEX, KJR; News, KSL.

8:15 p. m.—Jimmie Fidler, KGO, KEX, KJR; Churches and Present Day Problems, KSL.

8:30 p. m.—Quiz Kids, KGO, KEX, KJR; Gene Krupa's Orch., KXK, KOIN, KSL; Walrus, KPO, KOMO, KGO; People's Payroll Party, KOIN; Boeing Bomber E., KOMO; Art Linkletter, KPO.

9:00 p. m.—Presty Martin's Orch., KGO, KJR, KEX; Symphony, KPO, KOW, KXK; William Winter, KXK, KOIN; String Ensemble, KSL.

9:30 p. m.—Dorothy Thompson Comments, KGO, KEX; News, KJR; On Temple Square, KSL.

10:00 p. m.—Reporter News, KPO, KOW, KOMO; University Explorer, KGO, KJR; News, KXK, KEX; Dorothy Thompson, KJR; Echoes of the Opera, KSL.

10:30 p. m.—When Evening Comes, KGO; What's It All About, KXK, KOIN; Dance Orch., KSL; Quiet Hour, KJR.

11:00 p. m.—Victory Parade of Spot-Light Bands, KGO, KJR, KEX; Melodic Potpourri, KGO; Saloon Serenade, KOMO; Deep Melody, KPO.

11:30 p. m.—Raymond Gram Swing, KGO, KJR, KEX; Screen Guild Play, KXK, KOIN, KSL; Contented Hour, KPO, KOW, KOMO.

12:00 p. m.—Blondie, KXK, KSL, KOIN; Furlough Fun, KPO, KOW, KOMO.

1:00 p. m.—Amos 'n' Andy, KXK, KOIN, KSL; Fred Waring, KPO, KOMO, KGO; Earl Godwin, KGO, KJR, KEX.

1:15 p. m.—Lum and Abner, KGO, KEX, KJR; Celling Unlimited, KSL, KOIN, KSL; News, KOMO, KGO; Music for a Nickel, KPO.

1:30 p. m.—Cavalcade of America, KPO, KOW, KOMO; Gay Nineties Revue, KXK, KSL, KOIN; Counter Spy, KGO, KEX; Greater Washington Hour, KJR.

2:00 p. m.—Telephone Hour, KPO, KOW, KOMO; True or False, KGO, KJR; Down Memory Lane, KEX; Quiz Court, KXK; Leon F. Drews, KOIN; Studio Players, KSL.

2:30 p. m.—Vox Pop, KXK, KOIN; Hawthorne House, KPO, KOMO, KGO; News, KSL, KJR, KEX, KGO.

3:00 p. m.—University Explorer, KGO, KJR; Reporter News, KPO, KOW, KOMO; News, KXK; Five Star Final, KOIN; Masterworks of Music, KSL.

3:30 p. m.—Sports, KXK, KSL; Broadway Bandwagon, KEX; The World Today, KOIN.

4:00 p. m.—Matty Malneck's Orch., KOIN; This Moving World, KEX, News, KGO, KXK; Home Town News, KGO; Folk Music, KJR; Evening Reveries, KOMO.

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