

Satan's Henchman—by Art Naylor

Continued from Page Three

possibly been justly rated as wealthy. The magnificence of the furnishings was appalling. The thick Oriental rugs, rare bric-a-brac, elegant drapes, formed a rich setting for the luxurious furniture. Low, sensuous divans and multi-colored lamps graced every nook and corner.

Suddenly, from the end of a long

hall came the sound of a rasping, vitriolic feminine voice, threatening death and dire revenge. A softer voice, almost inaudible, answered, and seemed to aggravate the first speaker into a mad, screeching frenzy.

Casting aside all caution, Theo advanced silently down the hall over the heavy rug, but stopped at a door leading into an exquisitely appointed library. He stood dumbfounded at the scene which met his eyes. Swaying and holding to a large ebony table, with one hand flourishing a long, glittering knife, the woman who had preceded Theo into the house hissed her venomous threats at a young girl who stood spellbound on the opposite side of the table.

The Beautiful Captive

"I'll kill you—I'll kill you! Now—now is the time!" screeched the woman in a paroxysm of rage. But as she released her hold upon the table and started to advance upon her would-be foe, she shivered, then fell prone upon the floor, where she lay apparently lifeless.

As Theo rested his horrified gaze upon the victim, his heart gave a leap and then beat rapidly. Standing there by the table, repressing her fear and surprised by his presence, was the most beautiful girl he had ever beheld. She was of medium height, neither slender nor stout, but possessed of the most ravishing and superb figure, revealed and enhanced by her black silk pajamas.

The nearest comparison to her real complexion was, Theo considered, a ripe peach, perfectly tinted. Falling away from a regal brow was a glistening mass of black hair, which reached to her slender waist in a shower of natural waves. Her large, soulful black eyes resembled twin pools at night, and her little cupid mouth seemed to invite kisses on each of the red, red lips.

"Who are you, and why were you threatened by this woman?" Theo asked, advancing into the room.

Mutual Admiration

For a tense moment the girl remained silent, permitting her searching gaze to roam over the stranger. But there was that in his countenance and appearance which seemed to win her confidence and attract her to him, even as she perceived his attraction for her. "I am Marcia Anson, and that woman is Jennie Gilman, our housekeeper and—and, my guardian's mistress. She is becoming more and more addicted to drugs, and her condition is due to an over-indulgence. She'll come out of it after awhile." The girl spoke in a low, silvery voice that thrilled Theo. "But are you not—Theodore Ashton?"

Theo was surprised. "Why—yes," he acknowledged. "How did you know me? I am sure I have seen you before."

"I saw you play that wonderful game at Wilberforce. Of course, I was only a kid, but—but all girls have dreams."

"Do you mean to intimate that I proved myself your hero that day, and that you have dreamed of me?" asked Theo.

Marcia hung her head and a deep blush spread over her lovely features. "I—I'm afraid—I have."

Imprisoned by Guardian

The woman on the floor moaned, bringing the trend of the conversation to an abrupt close. Both Theo and the girl came to realize their position.

"But tell me, why are you here in such a situation? What about your guardian? Are you happy?" Theo asked seriously.

"No. My position becomes more precarious every hour. It's a long story, and I'm almost afraid to have you stay here. If you should be dis-

covered, both of our lives would be in danger."

"But I must know," Theo insisted. "If you are in danger, I want to help you."

"Oh, I do need your help! I haven't a friend on earth in whom I can place unguarded confidence. I am a stranger here in the city, and my guardian, who now goes under the name of J. Francis Bolton, seems determined that I shall marry a man I detest, thereby forfeiting all rights to the inheritance of my father. Just before father died, this Frank Bolton fraudulently inveigled him into making a will that made Bolton my legal guardian, at the same time, I believe, he, in conspiracy with the lawyer, inserted the clause making him the beneficiary in the event I married before I was twenty years of age. And I'll be twenty in six months."

"Whom does he want you to marry?" Theo asked.

"Edward Terry, a friend of his who seems to hold some secret power over him. I am watched day and night. And now that I have come into possession of so much of their crooked ways, I am beginning to fear for my life. Then, too, Bolton, as you know, is trying to insure my life for twenty-five thousand dollars. He is money mad and unscrupulous, and would stop at nothing to gain his end. If the insurance policy is issued, my life won't be worth a dime."

"That's just why I am here, to investigate the claims of his applications. But I think I understand the situation pretty well. So far as you know, is he in perfect health?"

Pledges His Aid

"I don't believe any honest physician would recommend any policy on his life. He is a diseased man."

"From this minute on you've got a friend in whom you can place your full confidence. I'm ready to answer any call you may make, and I'll give my life for your protection," Theo declared, as he advanced to her side. "Since I came into this room, life has dawned anew. I don't understand it, Marcia, but if there is such a thing as love at first sight, then—" Theo hesitated, as he remembered his engagement.

Marcia's eyes glowed as she looked up into his own, and a new light shone in their inky depths. "But

Continued on Page Eight



AGENTS WANTED Address: Best, Alexander, Box X-96, College Station, New York

RID YOUR SKIN OF UGLY BUMPS AND MAKE IT CLEAR, LIGHT, BRIGHT



WITH THIS WORLD-FAMOUS SKIN TREATMENT Be Sure It's Genuine Black and White Ointment and Skin Soap Don't Accept Any Other

Tonight—cleanse your skin with the rich, soothing lather of Genuine Black and White Skin Soap. Then apply Genuine Black and White Ointment according to directions on the package. Tomorrow morning you will be surprised and delighted to see that your skin has improved over night. Then continue to use this combination treatment for several nights and you will be absolutely astonished at the results. Those pimples and bumps will go, those ugly rashes and eczemic irritations will vanish, and soon you will have skin that will make you happy and popular—skin that will be clear, smooth, healthy, light and bright. Go to your druggist now and get a 50c package of Genuine Black and White Ointment (which contains three times as much as the 30c size) and a 25c bar of Genuine Black and White Skin Soap. Don't accept something "just as good"—get the Genuine Black and White.

Genuine BLACK AND WHITE OINTMENT and SKIN SOAP

The original and genuine Black and White Ointment and Skin Soap is made exclusively by the Black and White Company of Chicago.

WHITENS SKIN 7 Shades in 7 Nights!



Amazing new creme whitens skin 7 shades in 7 nights or costs you nothing. Removes freckles, tan, sallowness, muddy skin, pimples and blemishes. Safe, easy to use. Try a jar of Fan Tan Bleach Creme without risk. Simply mail coupon and pay postage charge when he delivers creme. It's so delighted after 7 nights, re-lighted after 7 nights, get more and get money back.

FREE Trial size tube of Fan Tan Whitening Creme for daytime use included free, if you mail coupon NOW!

Form with fields for Name, Address, City, State, and Dept. (Dept. 2110 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. C-354)

A THREE DAYS' COUGH IS YOUR DANGER SIGNAL

Coughs from colds may lead to serious trouble. You can stop them now with Creomulsion, an emulsified creosote that is pleasant to take. Creomulsion is a medical discovery with two-fold action: it soothes and heals the inflamed membranes and inhibits germ growth.

Of all known drugs, creosote is recognized by high medical authorities as one of the greatest healing agencies for coughs from colds and bronchial irritations. Creomulsion contains, in addition to creosote, other healing elements which soothe and heal the inflamed membranes and stop the irritation while the creosote goes on to the stomach, is absorbed into the blood, attacks the seat of the trouble and checks the growth of the germs.

Creomulsion is guaranteed satisfactory in the treatment of coughs from colds, bronchitis and minor forms of bronchial irritations, and is excellent for building up the system after colds or flu. Money refunded if not relieved after taking according to directions. Ask your druggist. (adv.)

CREOMULSION FOR THE COUGH FROM COLDS THAT HANG ON

Don't Take Chances

—with that cold. It may lead to serious complications. Take St. Joseph's Lax-ana (double strength) Overnight results. At all druggists



Make system alkaline to ... Stop Colds QUICK!

Get Rid of Colds Before They Weaken You, Make You Liable to More Serious Troubles.

Nowadays it's important to stop your cold quick before it weakens your resistance to more serious trouble.

Any of the older treatments will bring relief—after a time. But thousands say this new way is the quickest of any.

Begin when you feel a cold coming. Take a tablespoonful of Phillips Milk of Magnesia in a glass of water, morning, noon, and night, the first day. Do same the second day. Then only at night. Colds reduce the alkaline balance of your system. That makes you feel achy, feverish, weak. Phillips Milk of Magnesia relieves this, and restores the alkaline balance.

Doctors prescribe Phillips Milk of Magnesia; hospitals use it. Millions know how it relieves sour stomachs, gas, indigestion, constipation and other symptoms of too much acid. Get the genuine.



Askia—The Great African Statesman and Conqueror

Continued from Page Two

his family, a few dignitaries, and visiting rulers. In the audience chamber one approached him only by first throwing dust on the head. He never spoke directly to the people or to any assembly. He spoke in a low tone to a secretary or a herald who pronounced his words.

When he went out, his cortege was preceded by tambours, trumpeters, and musicians. The trappings of his horse were of the richest imaginable and the jewels on his person were worth an immense fortune. He rode always alone in the centre, the attendants holding the bridle and walking by his side. He surrounded himself with great dignity and majesty while the people worshipped him almost as a god.

Lost His Eyesight

At last total blindness overtook

him; but with the aid of his faithful secretary, Ali Folem, he succeeded in concealing the fact for years. Try as he would, however, he could not keep his kingdom up to the pitch of efficiency to which he had raised it, and the truth at last became known.

One of his many sons, Paria Mousa, coveting the throne, revolted, and Askia the Great was forced to abdicate on September 27, 1529, after a reign of thirty-six and a half years. He survived this many years, a pathetic shadow of his former greatness.

The empire that he built, however, lasted brilliantly for more than half a century after his death. Then Timbuctoo and the Songhay Empire went the way of all nations which have become too rich and prosperous. The people gave themselves up to pleasure, while the other rulers of the Askia dynasty showed little of the qualities of their great ancestor.

In 1590, the Sultan Mansour of Morocco cast covetous eyes on the rich empire that lay across the Sahara, and sending his troops over the desert plundered Timbuctoo, and partially destroyed it. Not long after the Songhay empire fell to pieces.

Glories Still Remain

But some of the glories of Timbuctoo still remain. There is the great mosque built by Kankara Musa, and the magnificent tomb of Askia the Great.

Felix DuBois, who visited Timbuctoo, says: "Askia the Great made Timbuctoo one of the world's great centers of learning and commerce. The brilliance of the city was such that it still shines in the imagination after three centuries like a star which, though dead, continues to send its light toward us. Such was its splendor that in spite of its many vicissitudes after the death of Askia the vitality of Timbuctoo is not extinguished."

When the true history of Africa comes to be written Askia the Great will be ranked with the leading rulers and statesmen of all time.



This dressing does it!

- goes right into the scalp and makes your hair grow. —straightens the hair from roots to end —makes it long, soft, silky and easy to comb in the smart new styles

Results are sure and quick when you use Wavine. Ten million treatments will hardly go 'round this year. You know it must be good! Why waste your time and money with others? Get Wavine at your druggist's or by mail postpaid from Boyd Mfg. Co., Birmingham, Ala.

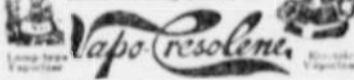
CHICAGO 20 E. Jackson Blvd. NEW YORK 41 Whitehall St.



Wavine HAIR DRESSING

Asthma

Quick relief for Bronchial Asthma with Vapo-Cresolene, vaporized and inhaled direct to irritated membranes of breathing organs—restores normal breathing, makes restful sleep possible. The drugless treatment. Your choice of lamp-type or new electric vaporizer. All drug stores.



Residual Inhalant for 50 cents. Write for Booklet No. 862, Vapo-Cresolene Co., 45 Condit St., New York