

MAD MARRIAGE

by LAURA LOU BROOKMAN Author of "HEART HUNGRY," etc.

CHAPTER XI.

"Is that supposed to be a joke?" Gypsy asked. She was not smiling. Her dark eyes, studying Wallace, looked wide and childish.

"Do I look as though I were joking? Never more serious in my life. I said let's get married. I mean it!"

"But what?"

"Listen, this will be the most sensible marriage you ever heard of. Now wait a minute—he saw that the girl was about to interrupt and hurried on—"Doesn't it strike you as a coincidence that out of this whole city full of people that you and I should meet tonight? And that both of us should be trying to forget somebody else? Forget—say, you and I are just a couple of saps who don't realize how lucky we are? Do you want that guy, whoever he is, to know you're miserable, wishing he would come back to you?"

"No," said Gypsy, emphatically. "Then instead of mooning over him, prepare for your wedding morn."

"I see what you mean," the girl said slowly. "You want to marry me to make—her—sorry she treated you so badly. That's what you're thinking about, isn't it?"

"Well, what if I am? It works the same way for you, doesn't it? And it's a hundred times better reason for getting married than most people have. Romantic nonsense—say, it makes me sick!"

"You're pretty bitter, aren't you?" Gypsy asked. "I don't blame you for feeling that way, but I couldn't marry you."

"Why not?"

"Well, it—just isn't my idea of a marriage, that's all."

"Do you like this town?" Wallace asked.

Gypsy considered. "I thought I did," she said. "I've always lived here. But now I hate it!"

"Getting out of here tomorrow morning, myself," said the young man. "Glad of it. Two days of New York is plenty. Lord—I'll be glad to be on my way back to Forest City."

"What's it like there?"

"Oh, you probably wouldn't think it was so much. Little place—compared with New York. We think it's quite a metropolis out there. He told her about the city 500 miles westward where the Wallaces had always lived. Forest City boasted a population of 200,000 citizens. It had a chamber of commerce that was "boasting" it and two country clubs.

"I'll get there," he said, "at 5:30 tomorrow night. The night I go out to the house and before I've had a chance to get off my coat Aunt Ellen will be telling me that the roast is getting cold and to hurry and come to the table. Wallace laughed shortly. "There is one person who's getting a break—Aunt Ellen! I've lived with her ever since I was a kid. Parents died. She was going to move next month. Rented a little place across the street, but I don't think she really liked the idea. Fond of the old house. Well—she won't need to move now!"

There was a brief silence. Then Gypsy said: "Were you—to be married soon?"

"Next month. But instead of waiting a month for me the young lady is going to stroll up to the altar one week from next Saturday with Young Brock Phillips, polo player, bon vivant and awfully, awfully well fixed with cash. Sole heir to papa's millions."

"Was it just tonight that she told you?"

Wallace nodded. He glanced at the watch on his wrist. "Approximately one hour and a half ago," he said. "You can imagine that it rather changed my plans for the evening. Changed them considerably. At that, I'm not so badly off as you. You're out of a job! Why did you give up the one you had? Don't you know that was foolish?"

"Yes," said Gypsy. "And I'd do it again tomorrow."

"What was the matter with the place?"

"Nothing. Everything! I've worked for the MacNamara company three years. Founding typewriters. Filing letters. Dictation. I'm so sick of offices and the sound of typewriters—rushing to work mornings and rushing home again at night—that I don't see how I can go back to it. I'm sick of New York, too. I'd like to get away and forget there is such a place. That town you were tell-

TODAY IN KLAMATH'S THEATRES

AT THE VOX

A dramatic vehicle of love and redemption with a sensational prison background opened at the New Vox Theatre Sunday for a four days' run. The film is "The Criminal Code," by Martin Flavin, the Columbia film adapted from Broadway's smashing stage hit of the same name which won the New York Theatre Club Trophy as the best play of the year. It was a prize-winning play and if any prizes are offered it will be a prize-winning picture.

The tale is of love, of the police courts, and of the heart-breaking legal cruelty that exists in prison. It is realistic—realistic to the extent that it shocks and startles and the stirring love scenes were poignant enough to rouse the motions of base Broadway. Unfolded for the major part in a state's prison, the story depicts a beautiful romance between a youthful convict and the warden's daughter. Bo Graham, the convict, was given ten years for a killing which was more or less justified. After six years of prison's brutalizing influence he is on the verge of a complete collapse. Love for Warden Brad's daughter transforms him. And then he has to decide whether he will sacrifice his chance for happiness and follow the "criminal code" of the prison. Woven in with the love scenes are sensational views of prison riots and an attempted prison "break."

Walter Huston, as the prison warden, gives a dynamic and convincing performance. He is effective at all times. Constance Cummings, as the warden's daughter, is vividly appealing. Phillips Holmes scores as the youthful convict.

When people declared they "do not care a fig" no reference to the fruit is intended. "Fig" is from the Italian word "ficio," meaning a snap of the fingers.

WILL BURY 90-YEAR-OLD VETERAN TODAY

SALEM, Ore., March 16 (AP)—Funeral services for Mathew Dorman, Civil war veteran, who died Saturday at the age of 90 at his Portland home, were to be held here this afternoon.

Dorman was born in Kentucky and had lived in Portland for 36 years. He is survived by his widow and seven children.

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