

SERIAL STORY

LADY BY REQUEST

BY HELEN R. WOODWARD

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THE STORY: "I can't believe it," says Bill Jackson, childhood sweetheart of Mrs. Stephen Curt...

LUNCHEON WITH EVALYN

CHAPTER XIII

ON Thursday Diana went to keep her luncheon engagement with Evalyn Thorpe. They lived in a fine old house on Peyton Square...

Diana, genuinely surprised and touched, assured the unhappy girl she had quite forgotten the incident. After Adela left the room...

But in the upper hallway, she stopped short, halted by voices coming up clearly from below. In the stillness of mid-morning Stephen's voice said, "Did you apologize to Diana as I told you to?"

Diana turned slowly back to her room. It was, after all, quite useless to try to make Adela her friend. And in the future she would know better than to trust Adela under any circumstances!

It was this remark that closed Diana's lips when she wanted to ask Stephen to tell her more of Evalyn. It had seemed like intruding into the privacy of a shrine, a sanctuary.

At the Thorpes' Diana was ushered into a charming living room of no especial design or arrangement. Evalyn rose from a low, chintz-covered chair by the fire and came forward with outstretched hands.

"You're late. I was afraid you'd forgotten," Evalyn said, clasping Diana's hands warmly. "But you must know I couldn't forget. Diana assured her eagerly. 'I've been looking forward to this moment ever since you asked me.'"

"I knew you would be. Sit down. We're spending the day quite alone, and I shall do everything in my power to keep you from being bored!"

As the day wore on, Diana felt that she could happily spend the rest of her life in this woman's company. Her conversation was gay, charming and interesting; her busy fingers flew over a knitted sweater in a deep, sea blue. And when Evalyn spoke lovingly of Richard Thorpe and his many fine qualities Diana felt a little ashamed that she had despised him so.

Richard began to take on a glow of respectability. Surely she had misjudged him. But she had never pictured him as the kind husband, the loving companion Evalyn painted.

SHE shut her thoughts resolutely to rumors she had heard of his "affairs." Office gossip, she told herself. Even the invitation she had given Diana to go to dinner with him had probably been

just a kindly gesture which she had been more than ready to misinterpret.

Evalyn told her a great deal about Stephen, too, whom she had known since childhood, speaking of him with warm admiration.

"There is not a finer mind anywhere than Stephen's," she said. "I hope you appreciate what a treasure you've married. And I'm sure he must love you very much!"

Diana felt like a traitor, but Evalyn attributed her confused reply to the natural reticence of a bride. Diana wondered what Evalyn would think a few short weeks hence when she learned of the divorce that Stephen would arrange.

It was late when she rose to go. "I want you to come here whenever you can," Evalyn said. "I like you, Diana, and I want you to know you are always welcome. Handicapped as I am, I do not get out much and I shall consider it a special privilege to have you come!"

Diana's eyes blurred. "As if the privilege weren't all on my side! This has been one of the happiest days I have ever known. I thank you for it!"

"I'm glad," Evalyn smiled, her soft, sightless brown eyes shining. All the way home Diana was aglow with the warmth of the blind woman's friendship.

Still in this exalted mood, she reached the Curt home. Larkin told her that Stephen had not yet come in. She ran through some mail lying on a small table in the

hallway and was about to pass on up to her own room when she heard low voices in the drawing room. More from curiosity than anything else she paused to glance in. Then she stopped short in amazement. For there, closely clasped in each other's arms, stood Adela and Richard Thorpe!

(To Be Continued)

There are more than 565,000 civil service employees in the United States.

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THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



ANSWER: Hurricane, a British fighter plane; Archie, a British anti-aircraft gun; Flaming Onion, a German anti-aircraft projectile; Jerry, a German fighter or his plane.

MOUNTAIN GOAT

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: HORIZONTAL 17 Pictured animal. 12 Choice part. 13 Analyze. 15 Whirlwind. 16 Sky. 17 Senior (abbr.). 18 Zest. 20 Fish. 21 Watched narrowly. 23 Land measure. 24 Air (comb. form). 26 Palm lily. 27 Elevates. 28 Former Russian ruler. 29 Belonging. 30 Eskimo snow hut. 34 European mountains. 38 Actor. 40 Italian coin. 41 Consumes. 42 Eagle's nest. 45 Agitation. 46 Smallest state (abbr.). 48 Male parent. 50 Divinity (abbr.). 51 Scooped. 54 Their habitat is in the. 57 Porticos. 58 Lists of names. 16 Zenith. 17 Company (abbr.). 19 Exist. 20 Peruse. 22 Greek letter. 25 To debar (law). 30 Roman roads. 31 Minute particles. 32 Distinct portion. 33 Belief. 35 Lighted. 36 Concepts. 37 Variety of carmelian (pl.). 39 Comforts. 41 Sun god. 42 Epic poetry. 44 Constellation. 49 Perform. 52 And (Latin). 53 Dawn (comb. form). 54 International language. 55 Kae. 58 Tritium (symbol).



OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



NO DIFFERENCE

OUR BOARDING HOUSE, with Major Hoople



RED RYDER



By Fred Harman



LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

By Harold Gray



BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES

By Martin



WASH TUBS

By Crane



FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

By Blosser



ALLEY OOP

By V. T. Ham'lin

