

SERIAL STORY

SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR

BY BLANCHE ROBERTS

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THE STORY: Judith Kingsley and Tom Burke, employees of an airplane factory, are on their way to the west coast. Judith leaves the plane with the new bomber plane which Tom had shipped to her. Pursued by the agents, she finds Tom in a western town. Just as the pursuers are closing in on her...

ANOTHER RIDE

JUDITH huddled in the dark against the cabin wall and tried to think of a way to escape.

In a moment, one of the men asked for a cabin.

"Sure—that one right yonder. Put your car right next to the end cabin," instructed the woman.

Judith realized with a start that she had to act now. She darted across the vacant lot to the next building and hid in its shadow.

Down the street she saw a filling station, and as she watched the lights went off and a young man went about closing up for the night. A small car stood beside the building.

"Maybe he'll drive me to San Diego," she thought as she made her way carefully, avoiding the street.

The bushes tore at her stockings, but she hardly felt it. "Sorry, lady, but I just closed," he told her as she walked up. "No more sales tonight."

"I don't want any gasoline," she said, with a smile. "Would you like to make \$50?"

"Who wouldn't?" he grinned. Then he eyed her a bit suspiciously. "Are you on the level?"

"Oh yes, I want to reach San Diego as soon as I can. It's urgent. Something happened to the car I was riding in. I've had an awful time getting this far. Can you drive me there tonight?" she pleaded.

"Sure, I'll drive you," he said quickly. "But I'll have to call mom and tell her where I'm off to. She'd worry if I didn't show up."

He unlocked the door of the station office and went in. When he phoned, Judith got in the car, keeping a close watch down the street for the big black car.

The youth came out and got in the car.

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the dead leaves and dust from her clothes.

"I'll never be able to thank you enough for what you just did," she said. There were tears of gratitude in her blue eyes.

"I was glad to do it," the boy said, and sat down suddenly on the running board of his car. "I was scared stiff and I don't mind admitting it."

Judith sat down by him. She unfasted a small jeweled watch on her wrist; it was a gift from Tom on her last birthday. She reached for his hand and dropped the watch into his palm.

"This is for you. Give it to your best friend."

"Gee, lady, I couldn't take that," he objected and tried to give the watch back to her. "You don't owe me anything more."

"I owe my life and what I am carrying to San Diego to you. And I want you to have this little token—at least, I want the girl you love to have it." She made him take it. She loved the little jeweled piece; it was her dearest possession. "Any time you hear of Judith Kingsley, you can remember this night."

In a few minutes they were off again.

"I know a different route to the city and we'll take it," he said. "Of course, it's longer and rougher but I sure don't want to run into those men again."

SEVERAL hours later they reached San Diego. It was still dark, and Judith was almost unconscious from weariness and lack of sleep.

Here in the city, she thought, her pursuers surely could not catch up with her. She decided to get some sleep, and go to the airplane factory in the morning.

She asked the youth to drive her to a hotel. When they found one, she thanked him again, and stumbled wearily to the desk to get a room.

(To Be Continued)

HOLD EVERYTHING!



"Hah! I knew they couldn't get along without me!"

WE STILL HAVE

COMPLETE STOCK OF SMALL HOME APPLIANCES

★ IRONS

★ TOASTERS

★ CLOCKS

★ WAFFLE IRONS

UHLIG'S

1026 MAIN

By William Ferguson

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

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