

WOMEN WON'T TALK

BY RENE RYERSON MART

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WITHOUT MARGARET

CHAPTER XVIII
SAM SHAW stalked from the room. I saw Will Grady and his wife join him in the hall. They went upstairs together.

I sat there for some minutes reassuring myself that whatever Deputy Shaw might suspect he would never succeed in finding out the truth, and at last rather stiffly I got to my feet and started for the hall. Kathy coming from the living room with light quick steps caught up with me on the stairs. She put her arm loosely around my waist and we went up together.

The door to Margaret's room was slightly ajar, and suddenly a high-pitched voice broke out inside.

"I tell you I won't stay here another night, you won't either. We're all liable to be murdered in our beds."

Kathy gasped as if she had been suddenly doused in ice water, and as for myself my breath came hard for a moment as if I had been running. I saw Edith Grady whispering to Will in the window above that morning, drawing away from us as if we had the plague, refusing to eat with us.

"The blond husky. And we had treated her as a guest! With an angry little cry Kathy turned and slammed into her own room, and with a shrug I turned toward mine. After all I wasn't too surprised. I had taken the blond woman's measure the first day I met her. And then I stopped.

The door of Margaret's room opened widely, and Will and the chief deputy came out into the hall. I stared at them coldly. Will grew red-faced when he saw me, and stood there twisting his hat between his hands in an agony of embarrassment.

"We won't be staying here tonight, Mrs. Kraik. My wife—she thinks—that is—we're going home, and we're taking Mother with us."

I HADN'T been prepared for that. It was Margaret, not Will, whom Edith Grady had been persuading to leave Kraiktower. Margaret who hadn't spent a night for 30 years from under my roof. I leaned rather weakly against the door of my room.

"But Margaret—she's ill. She isn't able—"

Will blundered on. "We'll be going in a closed car. The police—man thinks maybe she'd be safer"—he stopped abruptly in complete confusion, and shot an angry glance at Shaw beside him.

But Shaw was watching me. Will looked back at me, his blue eyes defensive. "You understand, Mrs. Kraik, it ain't any of my doings. I don't want you thinking that I don't trust you."

Even in my bewilderment I felt sorry for him. It was his wife and Shaw who were to blame, and Shaw—I flipped him a glance of pure venom—should have had more sense than to believe Edith Grady's silly vapors. But the deputy was in charge.

I swallowed hard. "I understand, Will." Something stuck in my throat. "You—you will be good to her?"

He nodded gravely. The morning after they took Margaret away from my house I woke about 7 and felt abominable. My head was splitting, and the fact that there was no Margaret now to bring me hot milk and crackers and stand over me to see that I ate them didn't add to my cheeriness. Thinking of her made my heart ache worse than my head. She hadn't been up and around the house since Derek's death, but I had known she was there, in her room. Now that closed door opposite mine was like a tombstone.

Headache or no headache I couldn't stand my own thoughts, so I got up and dressed and went downstairs.

WALTER joined me for breakfast, but left as soon as he had eaten. I went into my study and tried to concentrate on my household accounts. Clara couldn't manage all the cleaning in the big house; I'd have to get someone to take Margaret's place. And as always happens when one is determined not to think of something, that turned my thoughts back to Margaret and I couldn't pry them away.

I kept remembering little things about her as one does when someone has died. Things like the little black shawl that she wore around her shoulders winter and summer. I suppose her blood was thin. Anyway I could remember hav-

ing seen her without it only once or twice in all the years I had known her. And she never would discard it for one of the pretty knitted shoulderettes we gave her at Christmas times.

I was only too glad when Kathy prowling restlessly around came into the study and interrupted my thoughts. She had a book under her arm, and no makeup on except a dab of lipstick. Her eyes were too brilliant.

She asked about my headache and said, "You poor darling. You miss Margaret, don't you? We'll have to try to make it up to you."

She laid the book down on my desk and reached for a cigaret. The phone rang just then and I answered. The call was for Kathy, so I handed the receiver to her. While she listened her lips curled as if she had bitten into an unripe persimmon.

"Oh, damn," she said as she hung up. "A wire from George. He's coming down tomorrow." She flung her hands out as if pushing

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HOLD EVERYTHING!



"He got that far and volunteered!"

something away from her. "Kathy," I said bluntly, "Why don't you chuck it?" And I'd have had it out with her then and there but the hall door opened and Connie and Walter barged in. Kathy slid out so quickly she forgot her book. I picked it up later and looked at it. The title was TIME FOR MURDER, and the author's name, Clint Mattison. (To Be Continued)

America must join in whatever organized post-war sanctions are necessary to prevent by mutual force the recurrence of criminal military aggression in the world.—Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan.

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THIS CURIOUS WORLD

TWINS WINNERS

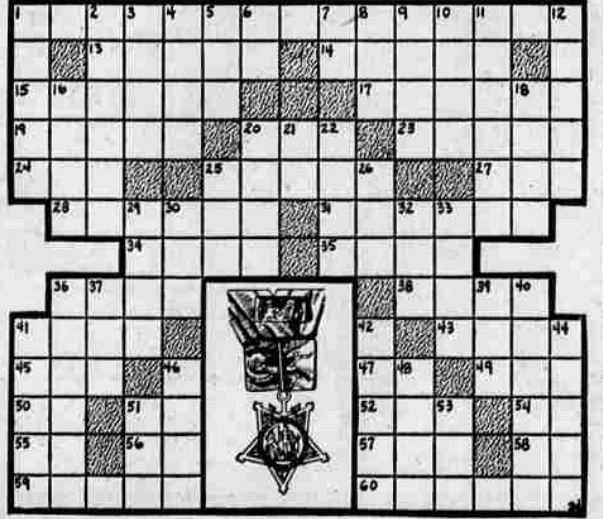
CHICAGO, (AP)—A sister and brother—twins—finished one-two in top honors in the graduating class of South Shore high school. Valedictorian of the class of 318 was Jeanne Grant; her brother, Alan, was salutatorian. The 17-year-old twins maintained an average of 95-100 throughout their four years at high school. Jeanne winning first honors by a slim margin.



ANSWER: Eddie Rommel, former pitcher and now American League umpire; Beardsley Ruml, author of Ruml income tax plan; Irwin Rommel, Nazi general.

HIGHEST NAVAL AWARD

HORIZONTAL		Answer to Previous Puzzle		11 Inhabitant of	
1 Depicted in the U. S. —	DAUNTLESS	PLANE	12 Flowers	16 On the sheltered side	18 Kind of cheese
13 Turn aside	ON TRIAL	EOSIN	19 On the sheltered side	20 Type of molding	21 North River (abbr.)
14 Pope's triple crown	US BANAL	AT IT	22 Span of horses	23 Blackbird of the cuckoo family	28 Compass point
15 Claws	GEM RED	OIL ARE	24 Large streams	29 Foodstuff	30 Irritate
17 Chatters	LAIR WE	SD CHA	31 Pay attention	32 Attempt	33 Pay attention
18 Unaccompanied	ALLOS	DOUGLAS A24	34 Great Lake	35 Shepherd	36 Shepherd gold bar pin
20 Ontario (abbr.)	SS	DOUGLAS A24	36 Simple	37 Exist	38 Large streams
21 Ignore	LED	TAUNTLESS	37 Menace to airplanes	39 Exist	40 Large streams
22 Rumanian coin	ROBS	TR	38 12 months	40 Large streams	41 Staff of life
23 Concur	ENG	TAP	41 Fall in drops	42 Inner courtyard	43 Portray
24 Duct (anat.)	SEVA	PA	42 Soak hemp	44 Musical instrument	45 Musical instrument
25 Fur	MAIL	ET	43 Acetyl (symbol)	46 Musical instrument	47 Musical instrument
26 Song of praise	LEVEL	RENOVATES	44 Girl's name	48 Man's name	49 Card game
27 Great Lake			45 Edward (abbr.)	50 Married	
28 Fur					
29 Song of praise					
30 Great Lake					
31 Simple					
32 Menace to airplanes					
33 12 months					
34 Fall in drops					
35 Soak hemp					
36 Acetyl (symbol)					
37 Girl's name					
38 Edward (abbr.)					



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Out Our Way

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Our Boarding House

With Major Hoopla



Red Ryder

By Fred Harmon



Freckles and His Friends

By Blosser



Wash Tubbs

By Crane



Boots and Her Buddies

By V. T. Hamlin



Allep Oop

By Martin



Little Orphan Annie

By Harold Gray

