

# SERIAL STORY LOVE POWER

BY OREN ARNOLD

COPYRIGHT, 1941, NEA SERVICE, INC.

SECRET OF X-999  
CHAPTER III  
THE office clock showed 9:02, but Dr. Hale was unaware of the thing existed. He was still dictating, walking slowly beside the windows where he could glance out at the night.

More often, though, he glanced at Carolyn Tyler; somehow her presence here was exalting. A subtle, delicate presence. A fragrance. He had never quite observed this phenomenon while with Leana Somri, his feminine associate in the laboratory. Patently Miss Tyler was somehow set apart among the feminine gender as a superior.

His thoughts snapped back again to the business at hand. He resumed dictating. "—wherefore it seemed advisable to interrupt the actual laboratory work and make this detailed report, lest some quirk of fate eliminate both Miss Somri and me from this earth tonight. We are the only two human beings who hold this priceless secret. Moreover, the public itself is entitled to know what has been accomplished. As to what may be expected from this isotope, which I have tentatively designated X-999, I will venture this much:

"One—sort of tabulate it, please, Miss Tyler—One: A five-pound lump of X-999, in only 10 to 30 per cent purity, would drive all of America's ocean liners and naval vessels for months without refueling, if the power were properly harnessed. One pound of the substance is equivalent to 3,000,000 pounds of coal or 3,000,000 pounds of gasoline. Two, in explosive power it—"

"Did you say explosive?" Carolyn asked. "Yes. In explosive power, a single pound of X-999 equals approximately 15,000 tons of trinitrotoluene, and—"

"Tons? Dr. Hale? One pound to 15,000 tons?" "Yes, Miss Tyler! It's unbelievable but true! One pound to 15,000 tons of TNT! I know it stagers a person to think of it, but—well, the language has no adequate words for this! History has no precedents. With X-999 available, the human race must revise its entire concept of energy and power, as applied to daily living. That is why I don't dare take chances on letting this precious secret be lost now that Leana and I have chanced to—but I must not digress. Put down that the quantity production of X-999 in this laboratory has made possible the—"

He slipped back from his sudden intense conversation with Carolyn into his dictation drone, choosing words with meticulous care lest he say neither too much nor too little.

It was past 10 o'clock before he paused again. This time he was at the window, and stopped talking for a long moment just to gaze out at the blackness punctured by distant city lights. It was a natural stopping place in his narrative, Carolyn noted. She sat back wearily in her chair, and tossed her pencil onto her desk.

"I wouldn't want to be inquisitive," she began, laconically. "Dr. Robert Hale was so young looking!" "But I'm sort of curious to know how scientists get along without eating. My own lunch was 10 hours ago." She flushed with a little smile.

pectedly. "I must think of some place where nobody lives." "What stuff?" she asked. "The baked salmon?"

"The X-999! Tomorrow we'll arrange for a truck to—"

"Hush!" she ordered, smiling. "Time now to rest a bit. Do you dance?"

"Why—uh—why, yes, I used to. I can't say that—"

"Come on!"

Somewhat astounded at himself, he danced with her twice before their hour here was done. Moreover, he liked it.

"You are a remarkable girl," he said, a bit later.

"Thank you!" She dimpled at him then. "But let's be going. If I must work all night, I must."

Outside in his car the talk slipped back toward business, and stayed there when they walked again down the office hall.

"I suppose it will have tremendous economic importance," Carolyn was saying there in the corridor. "Somebody will get rich. Me, I don't even try to save money any more. A little poem expresses it thus:

"There was a man who saved up for the future. He put in his money bags all he could spare; But, alas, for the poor economical moocher— The future arrived and the man wasn't there!"

Dr. Hale laughed heartily. The funny little rhyme did him good, and he realized that just being with pretty Carolyn Tyler did him a world of good, too.

His racing thoughts, however, were suddenly interrupted. Leana Somri popped open his office door and came out, glaring.

"What in the world happened?" she demanded. "Nothing, Leana. I've just been eating and dancing. And I—"

## Plowing Patriot



Joyce Roberts, Salinas, Calif., Junior College co-ed, hangs to motorized plow handles in school's farm tractor course—an auxiliary defense measure. She's only girl in unglamorous but patriotic course.

## OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



BORN THIRTY YEARS TOO SOON

## OUR BOARDING HOUSE, with Major Hoople



ALL DRESSED UP AND SOME PLACE TO GO!



RED RYDER



YOU'VE ALL GOT ANOTHER THINK COMING!

## LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE

Store your furs and winter garments in our new vault— New Method Cleaners—Phone 4471.



BOOTS AND HER BUDDIES



THERE'D BE THE DICKENS TO PAY IF HE SHOULDN'T COME TO, ALL RIGHT--



WASH TUBBS



OF ALL THE PEOPLE ON THIS SHIP, ONLY TWO ARE SURPRISED TO SEE ME. I RECKON THE PROVES WHO TREW ME OVERBOARD



FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



IT'S JUST TOO TOO SHATTERING! I'VE LOST ALL MY ILLUSIONS! I THINK I'LL JUST SECLUDE MYSELF IN AN OLD ABANDONED GUANDARY!



ALLEY OOP



SO OUR SHORE PARTY'S RUN SWILLIN' SHIP, THEN TEACH 'EM NOTHIN' I'LL KEEL-HAUL 'EM! JUST WAIT 'TIL I GET OFF THEIR EARS! I'LL CUT 'EM UP IN SKIN 'EM ALIVE!!



## THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

**ZOO ANIMALS IN THE NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS**

DINE AT INTERVALS VARYING FROM FIVE MINUTES TO TWO WEEKS.

**STORMS**  
SELDOM EXTEND MORE THAN FIVE MILES ABOVE THE EARTH.

**KWIK-KOZYER**

IF YOU TAKE A COURSE IN OOOLOGY, WHAT Q WILL YOU BE STUDYING?

ANSWER: You'd be studying birds' eggs.

## U. S. SOLDIER

**HORIZONTAL**

1. 6 Pictured U. S. A. top army official.

13. Jar.

14. Original musical draft.

16. Arabian.

17. Male child.

18. Crowns of heads.

19. Coin.

20. Saucy.

21. Goddess of peace.

22. Residue from pressed grapes.

24. Having made a will.

26. Slumbered.

30. To furnish with new weapons.

34. Eating utensil.

35. Lowest deck on ship.

36. Ball player.

38. Play for actors.

39. Toward.

40. Wood spirits.

44. Box sled.

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

47. To gleam.

48. Higher in place.

53. Enthusiasm.

54. Body in sky.

55. Mournful.

56. Cuckoo.

57. He rose through the ranks by Chief of.

58. He is now Chief of.

**VERTICAL**

1. Pep.

2. Otherwise.

3. Genus of swans.

4. To declaim.

5. Detected.

6. Vocal composition.

7. Sphere of action.

8. To change a gem setting.

9. Injury.

10. Tract of ground.

11. Den.

12. Pound (abbr.).

20. This general was an aide to General.

23. He is a student of past.

24. Principle.

25. To corrode.

27. Roof finial.

28. Drunkard.

29. Small child.

31. To make a mistake.

32. Room recess.

33. Gypsy.

37. Sturdy.

41. Pertaining to wings.

42. Bull.

43. Made to float.

44. Irish fuel.

45. Arm bone.

46. Naive.

49. Food paste.

50. Opposed to com.

51. Bird of prey.

52. Railway (abbr.).

15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

By Fred Harman

By Harold G

By Martin

By Crane

By Blosser

By V. T. Hamlin