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A Sleeping Beauty

By CELIA ROSE

"Hello, Muggins!" Johnny Deeds shouted from the road. The figure in the rocking chair upon the Martin book in hand, Johnny halloed againagain his answer was the silence of unconsciousness-clearly Louise Martin did not mean to admit that she had ever responded to the name of Muggins. Johnny grinned cheerfully and scuttered up the winding way, to pause at the steps, doff his hat and say, with an elaborate obeisance: "Is the-ah! ahem-lady of the home at home?"

"Not to-vagabonds," the rocking chair's occupant returned tranquilly, its' eyes still down. Next minute two holding them was drawn gently back

did, she would either laugh or cry. Either meant triumph for Johnny, the lawless-she knew of old his capacity to torment her. Silently she turned to go inside-then Johnny caught both her hands and sat her down, not very gently, saying: "No, you don't! Not in this company. What ails you, anyway, Mug? Used to be the best sort of sport, you did."

"You mean-I was a barbarian, the same as you," Louise burst out. "Weli, I have learned better manners, Unless you can do the same-please keep

way from here!"

"H-m! Is that a true word-or just makeup?" Johnny asked, the least shade of seriousness creeping into his face. Louise glared at him. "Will you never grow up?" she stormed. "You know, you must understand, my posttion here in my uncle's house. His wife is the very properest personwith a leaning to wild ways under the rose. If she had heard you say 'Muggins' I should never have been anything else to her-of course, in strict privacy, she makes Uncle Ben think her a sort of grown-up snow white. Already she hates me, because I see through her. If she knew anything of those mad, happy old days when we were playfellows, thinking and knowing no evil, she would have a whip ready to her hand, and would use it to put me through my paces."

"She shan't know, girl. I'm willing to kick myself a mile!" Johnny exploded. "I ought to have thoughtof course, the neighbors know something-of the dual personality of the new Mrs. Benjamin Martin, Still, I honestly didn't dream of making you trouble. Forgive me all my impertinence and let me know if I can help you in any way."

"Only in-a very me." Louise said, sighing, "That is, by staying away until-be sure I'm not here for always. Uncle says Martin blood forbids my working. I have another notion as to that-I'd rather scrub floors for a living than stay here much longer."

"You need not stay a day-remem-Johnny began significantly. Louise looked over his head, flushing "Don't let's think of impossibilities," she said, but sighed as she said it. Johnny laid a brotherly hand on her shoulder, asking: "Haven't you got over anything?" In reply she sould only shake her head and turn away, biting her lips.

Johnny strode up and down the porch, his face dark, his brow deeply furrowed. Thus Mrs. Martin came upon him and smiled unpleasantly as she glanced from one to another of the pair. So did the man in her wake, who was by appearance neither young nor old, good nor bad, but tremendously well groomed and well tailored, as redolent, indeed, of affluence as the perfectly appointed car which had brought him and his hostess. At sight of him Louise hurrled away, to be recalled imperiously, then bidden in a velvet voice please, to order tea and serve it. Johnny must stay for it, of course-a balanced party was so much pleasanter. Moreover, he had been so long in coming over, he must be specially well treated in hope of a return. All this coolngly, avid eyes the while measuring his six-foot-one of vigorous young manhood, his handsome tanned face and vital close-cropped curls. Mrs. Martin, fair, forty, languishing, approved all of them thoroughly-all the more that he made her escort. Franklin Ware, seem so faded and She looked at Johnny, indeed, with much the same gloating expression that Ware gave to Louise. Johnny saw and shivered-not for himself, but for the prospect before

He got no private word with her. though he lingered to the last allowable moment. He could not even watch over her. Mrs. Benjamin was too wholly bent on his captivation. But he had a sense that she was suffering deeply from the glances and compliments of Ware. Small need for Mrs. Benjamin to say, as she did when she went half-way down the walk "Matters are arranging with him: themselves so beautifully. We shall have a wedding before we know it. Louise will make the most beautiful bride in the world."

He galloped away, ready to swear at life and things. If only Louise lifically in Algeria.

would forget that cursed Melville and marry her faithful Johnny, all things would come right. He was sure she dld not love the real Melville, but rather an image she called by his name and set up in her heart's inner shrine. "She really is a Sleeping Beauty," he said to his heart, reverting to the happy audacity whose memory made him tingle. "Once she waked she'd have to know life and things. My business is to wake her.

I wonder how I shall do it." After three days of pondering he upon something that made him porch did not lift its eyes from the tails. After he had dispatched it to a distant address he gave his whole mind and time to haunting the Martin establishment, bent on knowing Hance. Franklin Ware was a desperate wooer, and ably seconded by Mrs. Benjamin, who, of course, brought her husband to seeing with

her eyes. Therefore he said seriously to Louise, that with no wish to constrain her inclination, he felt bound to say warm hands fell over them-the head she would both please and relieve him by providing for herself so finely, and a kiss planted upon a pair of soft | Franklin Ware was not, to be sure, in his first youth-he had, moreover, had "That's how you wake a sleeping a harvest of very wild oats. To off-beauty, isn't it?" Johnny asked guile- set that, he was rich, well born, pos-Louise had risen and faced sessed of a standing that gave his wife him, a furious scarlet flooding her entree everywhere-and eager to cheeks. She dared not speak-if she make her the most magnificent settlecould do no more for his brother's only daughter than give her a home and maintenance while he lived. All he had was well tied up beyond diversion in any direction. And it would pain him deeply to think either of leaving his niece unprovided for, or to have her go to work. In the name of the blood he begged her to save him such discomfort-she listened shiveringnot over what was said, but left unsaid, namely, that Uncle Ben might be now a millionaire, if he had not years back voluntarily paid huge sums to clear his brother of debt, and keep the family name spotless. Then, too so long as the brother lived, he had been generous in help to him, who was the soul of improvident kindliness. Louise felt to the marrow of her bones all she owed the good parrow man. too fine bred to recall benefits be stowed. It seemed to her she must obey him-or die. Death, indeed. seemed her only refuge-she could not

> her heart belonging to Melville. Then when she was most distraught came Melville's letter-in mad haste. "Johnny writes me you have great prospects-if you will accept them. it said. "My dear girl, don't be a fool. Accept the goods the gods provideand thus justify the admiring friend-

> think of accepting Johnny with all

"Hastily and heartily your. "ARTHUR MELVILLE." Johnny saw her read it-not for naught had he studied postal schedules and haunted the carrier's route As she crushed the sheet within a shaking hand, he touched her shoul-

"Honey-trust yourself to me! even if I can't ever make you love me, it will be-better than-the other inevitable thing."

der gently, saying:

"I can't! I am too ashamed. To think I-oh, no decent man ought ever to look at me!" Louise cried hotly; then with a sob gave him the When he had read it he turned to see her sitting with bowed head, face hidden in her hands, and trembling all over. "I believe you saved me-from-the very worst," she said. "If you will have me-" breaking off there and drooping lower still.

He married her next day-to the scandal of Mrs. Benjamin. Time's whirligig indeed brings revenge. Before the honeymoon waned Louise hid her face in his shoulder to say, happily, "I was in a trance, Johnny, dear! How in the world did you care enough to wake me?"

"Oh, I have a taste for sleeping beauties," Johnny answered, tweaking her ear-but with eyes that misted a little in spite of him.

Picture in a Spanish Barn.

A great stir has been caused among lovers of art by the discovery of an ancient masterplece in a barn, in the Spanish province of Estremadura. It is a fine painting of a Madonna, with the infant Jesus on her lap, a blackrobed monk on one side and a whiterobed monk on the other-these being probably meant for St. Benedict and St. Bernard. It is painted on wood and is less than four feet square. It is thought to have been produced about 1500 to 1550. To prevent Americans and other outsiders from snapping up this treasure, and taking it out of the country, a millionaire of Bilboa has advanced the large sum demanded by the owner of the barn and has offered It to the Spanish government. Meanwhile it has been placed in the Prado museum at Madrid.

Hunger Vanished.

While dining with my girl friend one evening her parents had a friendly little quarrel about the traits that their daughter inherited from each, and the father, who was rather an ugly man. sald, "Well, beauty from me anyway." And speaking before I thought I

chimed in, "I should say not." My hunger vanished and I felt like following its example.-Chicago Trib

French scientists have obtained 14 per cent of sugar and 60 per cent of alcohol from cactus that grows pro-

nome Town

VINES GIVE FINISHING TOUCH

Hardly Too Much to Say That House Is Not Really Complete Without Green Growth.

No farmhouse is complete unless it has something green growing over the porches or beside the doors. If you happen to have a house of brick, stone, or concrete, you can use a clinging vine, like the Virginia creeper. For the northern states you had better use Ampelopsis Engelmannii, which is particularly hardy. You can also use Euonymus vegetus, a remarkably fine climber, which takes the place in the North of the English ivy, the latter vine not being hardy. It keeps its green leaves all winter, and when well grown produces a large number of atberries resembling bitter sweet. When you have a wooden house you can make choice among many different vines, like bitter sweet, Clematis paniculata, Hall's honeysuckle Akebia, Dutchman's pipe, and various roses. Indeed, some of the climbing roses are almost indispensable This does not necessarily mean the old-fashioned Red Rambler, for some of the newer sorts are cleaner and better. Among the good hardy kinds are Excelsa, American Pillar-one of the finest of all; Dorothy Perkins, TILLAMOOK Lady Gay, Taussendschon and Aviateur

Now that peace is returned there is a notable tendency to grow more flowers and flowering plants. This means that a great amount of planting will be done, and it should mean the improvement of country homes everywhere throughout the country.

RIVALRY HAS GOOD EFFECT

Competition of Towns in Showing Community Progress Worked Wonders in West Virginia.

Cities at least have the stimulus to make improvements whether they do so or not. The village and rural community lack the stimulation that comes through contact with the outside world. It is not surprising to find them narrow and unprogressive. A unique experiment along the line of community betterment has been in progress for two years in 23 small West Virginia communities. A system of points is used to score community progress, 1,000 being a perfect score. Nine general headings are used to cover the field of community development-history, government, bust ness, farm, clubs, homes, schools churches and health. As examples of the way it works, the absence of gaudy and ugly advertising signs scored two points; increased use of school building for regular school work and as a social center, four oints, and one point each for better housekeeping, as the results of activities of the farm women's clubs, installation of bathrooms, and running water in kitchens, and extension and improvement in the rural telephone system. The experiment has produced no Utopia, but has raised standards in the communities involved.-Leslie's Weekly.

Garden Cities.

To those who really understand what garden cities mean, who have seen them in actual being, and maybe, lived in their midst, there are few things that appeal as more utterly right than this new development in the great scheme of the world's housing. The ease with which ugliness is avoided and beauty attained; the generous way in which nature, at every turn, enters into the plan, responding at once to the smallest touch of art with a quite superabundant generosity; the wonderful outflow of publicspiritedness from all concerned, once the way is opened up, these and a hundred other welcome graces are to be found everywhere within the garden city.-Christian Science Moultor.

Pure Air VItal. People grow old and die fast enough in the purest of air. A smoke-laden atmosphere strikes years from the calendar of the average life. Yet the average person does not know it, and goes as complacently to an earlier death as do the cattle to the slaugh-

The air of every city can be made pure by being kept pure, and it is the function of engineers to bring this about. Not only is it their function to keep city air pure, but it is pecultarly their duty to arouse the pub-He to authorize them to apply their

Home Means Everything.

Home is where the idealism of the race is nurtured. It is such a place that endears the soll to the man who lives upon it. It is a strong bond which links him to the community. It deepens and makes sweeter the whole family life, and it forms a background of pleasant memory for his children which will endure,

No Sympathy From Him. During a recent oil tank fire, while the city was enveloped in a dense black smoke, Richard was told by his mother that the oil tanks were burning; a playmate suggesting that it was custor oil, Richard said: "Let it burn."

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