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In Confidence by Flo



Readers desiring a personal reply can address Miss Flo, in care of this newspaper

ELEVEN YEARS—AND HE WON'T MARRY

Dear Miss Flo:

I am a woman past thirty. For the last 11 years I have been giving all of my time to a man whom I expected to marry. Now he tells me that he doesn't wish to be tied up in marriage—that a man is a fool to burden himself with a wife.

Please tell me how I can regain his love. I know that he cared for me at one time. If I go out with anyone else he is terribly jealous. For that reason, I think he must still care for me a little. Do you think I can win him back? JANE

* * *

I think, Jane, that you are very foolish to want to regain his love. I don't think he would be worth having. The man to whom you have given the best part of your youth, and all of your love, is very selfish indeed. He doesn't want you badly enough to make the sacrifices marriage demands, and he doesn't want anybody else to have you. He finds you a congenial companion, one whom he doesn't have to exert himself to entertain, who will pal around with him as a wife would.

It is the tragedy of women that not even neglect, insult, faithlessness or brutality can kill their affection for the man they love. They insist upon going on, clinging with desperate hands to the man who may be trying to break away. They go on and on hoping against hope that something will happen that will give them back their lost love. But their prayers are never answered. The miracle never happens. For of all dead things, nothing can be so dead as dead love, nothing can be so hopelessly incapable of becoming once more the vital thing it was.

We do not know why we love. We do not know why this person has some particular appeal for us—why we have a sense of comradeship with certain individuals—why some person facinates us or why we desire one man or one woman more than another who may be more than worthy in every way. Love cannot be analyzed.

Not many men are cruel enough to deliberately win a girl's love and then throw it away, finding joy in the fact that they are capable of breaking a woman's heart. There are not many husbands who would not remain their wife's eternal lovers if they could.

Look at the matter squarely and see what an unfair deal this man is giving you. Do you think he is worth your tears? It may be that he loves you as much as he is capable of caring for anyone—but there can be no hope of happiness in such a one-sided love affair, and the sooner you break it off—shut your door in his face and forget him—the better it will be for you.

That will save your self-respect, and it will leave you young enough to make other ties.

If anything in the world will bring him to the point of proposing marriage that will. If he can no longer have your society without marriage, he may marry you to get them.

Information

Sunday School Teacher—Where do little boys go who don't mind their parents?

Billie—Down back of the railroad coal chutes to Spike Nelson's crap

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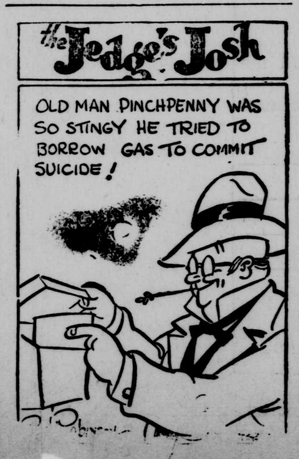


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