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Cures Colds: Prevents Pneumonia

In the Glamour of the Sea

By Ina Wright Hanson

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"It has been a pleasant summer, hasn't it?" asked the man, settling back more comfortably against a bowlder.

"The pleasantest I ever have spent," the girl acknowledged, smoothing a ruffle on her red parasol.

"And tomorrow it ends."

"Tomorrow is the first day of—why, count, it ended a month ago—the summer, and we did not know it!"

"We did not know it," he mused, "but we know it now."

The breakers were coming in. Jeanette watched them going to their death against Black point and the beauty of their immediate transformation into feathery spray, but her mind was reviewing the months of this man's companionship. Never had another man so compelled her admiration and stimulated so delightfully her mental faculties. In truth the count's most powerful magnet was her realization that in his mind were wonderful treasures which as yet she had not reached. She had but to start on a train of thought, and he would follow it eagerly to its very end merrily or whimsically or with affecting pathos, according as his mood might be. How could she ever weary of a friend like him? Then he was so courtly and withal so handsome; and he was of princely birth. What girl could resist such manifold attractions? But through all the happy hours in his company one thought continually annoyed her, and the name of the thought was Jim.

She and Jim were engaged, and she had postponed the marriage day—after she had met the count. Jim had spent the summer in a hot little inland town, where his work was. She had forbidden him to join her till she should bid him come, and Jim, because his love for her was so unwisely great, had stayed away. Jeanette turned impatiently from Black Point and smiled at the count.

"There are others," she said.

"Other what?" he asked blankly. Perhaps his mind had been wandering too.

"Other seasons. There are people who live here in the winter, and they say the ocean is magnificent in wild weather." Her tone was seductively inviting.

"I know, but at Christmas time there is to be a wedding in Paris, and I must be there."

"Weddings don't last long." She sifted some sand through her fingers.

"But after the wedding sometimes lasts a very long time, and the bride—she is very lovely, mademoiselle—is to stay in Paris after the wedding."

"Oh, I see! How stupid I have been! You are to be the bridegroom. Do let



"YOU'RE A REGULAR STAGE BEAUTY!" HE SNEERED.

me congratulate you." Her little trill of laughter sounded almost sincere.

The count sighed. "She is lovely, but not so fair as you, little maid, who are all of the sea. That kelp floating yonder is the brown of your hair; the water out there beyond the breakers is the blue of your eyes; the white spray is your sweet throat, Jeanette, Jeanette!"

Jeanette's slender hands trembled as she raised the red parasol. There was no occasion for its shade—the sun was not looking their way—so she closed it and laid it down again. Then she answered quietly:

"The sea has moods, count. Today it is blue, which means truth and peace; tomorrow it may be gray and furious with whitecaps. Today it may bring you a message from Paris delicately scented; tomorrow it may catch your best beloved in its arms and hold her till she is dead, dead, dead!"

"You have its beauty, sweet girl, but not its treachery."

Again came the thought whose name was Jim, and Jeanette flushed.

"My wedding day was to have been a month ago, but I—I—postponed it. Jim is a good man, too," she added loyally.

"Allow me to wish you unbounded joy," the count said coldly.

"I fear it is a futile wish," she answered sadly, "but I thank you."

"What a messer of human affairs fate is, Jeanette!" he broke out suddenly. "Why couldn't we have been kept from meeting now we must part forever? Oh, must it be forever? I will go and fulfill my vow, but must Paris hold me for all time? May there not be voyages across the sea, back here to you, my dear one?"

She shook her head. If you take a vow to be true to one woman, you must be true in spirit and in letter. Otherwise"—

The man's eyes blazed with sudden fire.

"You are right, mademoiselle. There is but one safe way, and there are no bypaths to it, but it is only through life that I can be true or false. Suppose I put life from me as a man throws aside the coat he has worn threadbare? Have you not noticed the trend of the world's thinking people? When you read your newspaper and note here a death and there a death, does it mean nothing to you, this self destruction? We were not consulted when we were brought into life; why should we consult any one if we wish to go out of existence?

Jeanette gazed at him wide eyed, half fearing she knew not what.

"You mean—that is—I—do not understand"— she stammered.

"I retract one phrase," he went on, as if she had not spoken. "I said 'out of existence.' I mean out of this life into another, where our lost joys will come to us, where what we are here denied we may there press to our hearts."

"Reincarnation?" murmured Jeanette.

"Yes. See, dear, the tide is coming in. We have only to stay here, and this hateful life can bind us with no galling chains! Are you brave enough, my beautiful girl?"

The answer trembling upon her lips was never spoken. With a shriek she sprang up. Along the rocky road came galloping toward them a wild eyed horse dragging at his heels a two wheeled dump cart. Judging from the variegated odors rising heavenward the dump cart was not empty. As the count rose Jeanette seized his arm and dragged him over the low bluff. Here they were caught by a playful breaker, rolled off their feet and tossed gayly against the cliff.

"What made you do that?" spluttered the count angrily. "The horse would have passed us a rod away! Thunder! Look at that tremendous wave!"

"Hold your breath!" warned Jeanette. "Then you won't strangle."

The second performance wasn't quite so serious, though somewhat dampening. As the water receded Jeanette looked curiously at her companion. His voice sounded as if he had lost his temper along with his hat. His dripping garments and angry face were so different from his usual dapperness and urbanity. The sudden plunge from theoretical heroics to this absurd plight affected Jeanette's risibles. She choked with laughter till the third wave had taken its turn with them.

"You look so funny!" she gurgled, trying to extricate her countenance from clinging strings of wet hair.

"Well, you're a regular stage beauty!" he sneered. "How are we going to get out of this? I can't swim."

"Maybe in the next reincarnation you'll be a porpoise, and then you can," she giggled. "If you hurry, we can get up those steps before the next wave comes. There are generally three, and a little longer wait before the fourth. Really, count, I am sorry I was so foolish. The horse seemed to be fairly upon us, and I was too startled to know what I was about," she added humbly.

The count spoke not a word as he headed for the rude steps cut into the cliff. Jeanette missed his helping hand as she scrambled up alone and hurried after him. Fortunately there was a back way to the hotel, and the bedraggled pair reached cover unobserved.

"A glamour by the sea is one thing, and a glamour in the sea is another," the count observed as he scuttled up the back stairs.

And Jeanette, as she removed her ocean laved garments, thought between smiles and tears of dear, patient Jim, waiting in a hot inland town—waiting anxiously her bidding—and when she was clothed (her right mind had come back to her at the foot of the cliff) she sent a telegram:

"Jim, dear, come."

Her Age.

"And what is your age, madam?" was the attorney's question.

"My own," she answered promptly.

"I understand that, madam, but how old are you?"

"I am not old sir," with indignation.

"I beg your pardon, madam. I mean how many years have you passed."

"None. The years have passed me."

"How many of them have passed you?"

"All. I never heard of them stopping."

"Madam, you must answer my question. I want to know your age."

"I don't know that the acquaintance is desired by the other side."

"I don't see why you insist upon refusing to answer my question," said the attorney. "I'm sure I would tell how old I was if I were asked."

"But nobody would ask you, for everybody knows you are old enough to know better than to be asking a woman her age. So there!"

And the attorney passed on to the next question.

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It is generally supposed that the term "dark horse" is of American origin. But Thackeray used it in his "Adventures of Philip" before it became current in this country and in exactly the same sense as we employ it. "Well, bless my soul!" Philip is made to say, referring to some mysterious candidate for the house of commons. "He can't mean me. Who is the dark horse he has in his stable?"—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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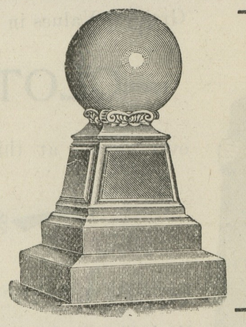
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