

THE END OF A CAREER

By MARGARET WOOD

[Copyright, 1899, by Margaret Wood.]

"It's no use talking any longer, mother," said Kitty Mason; "I have made up my mind to go, and go I will."

"Oh, my dear, you are not a child! I do not do the mother of such a child! Where is your gratitude for the comfortable home provided for you by your father and myself? Have we not done everything in our power to please you and make you happy? No girl could have had more done for her than you, and yet you are not satisfied, and for the last year you have made my life a misery by your continual entreaties to be allowed to live in London to study art, so that you may earn your living out of it—as if you could ever do such a thing."

"Mother, dear, I know that no one could have been kinder than you and father," Kitty said contritely, "but I have not the heart to go on with you. I am wearying my life in this place and I feel it in me that I can do something if I only get a change."

Mrs. Mason and her daughter were seated in the large comfortable drawing room of their house in Skipton. The mother in her normal state was a sweet, amiable, and quite content with herself, her husband and daughter and her surroundings. And she could not understand how it was that her only child should have these unnatural—her unnatural they appeared to her—cravings for London and making a career for herself.

Three years have gone by and Kitty is still in London. She has not tired of her studies, as her mother prophesied—and devotedly hoped—she would in a month, but is more determined than ever to go on and prosper.

She and Myra Sinclair are not living in the rooms where they made their adventurous start, for they have found that they can afford larger and larger apartments, as well as a studio, which is the delight of the two girls' hearts.

It is in this studio that we find them one bright, cold December afternoon, both sitting close to the fire, Myra on the hearth-rug, with a book in her hand, and Kitty on the table, with her pencil busy drawing a head for a story. Kitty is a born black and white artist. It is a delight to her to see the ornamental letters—which are her chief work, as the demand for them is so large—grow under her fingers, and so deft is she that she can still go on with her work when the room is filled with callers and there is a continuous buzz of conversation in which she is expected to join.

Myra had let her book drop into her lap, and she was earnestly regarding her friend as she drew. Suddenly she said: "I wonder, Kitty, if you are a great deal better than you were grown lately. Not that you were not always that, but there is something all more bewitching about you in these days. If I did not know better, I should say that I was a lover in the case."

"Kitty," exclaimed her mother, horrified, "how can you talk so? Loathe the place where you were born and brought up, and where the friends of a lifetime live! If this is the result of a boarding school education, for my part I think it should be put a stop to."

"The height of Mrs. Mason's ambition for her daughter was that she should marry John Forrest. He was the son of a gentleman farmer living a few miles out of the little town, good looking and with excellent prospects and abjectly in love with Kitty."

"Yes," answered Kitty, sobbing, "I am really going."

"Good morning, Miss Mason," said he, raising his hat and holding out his hand, "whither away in such haste, and why so early?"

He was a fine, good-looking man, with a fund of spirits which hardly ever seemed to desert him. He had a flourishing future before him, too, which made him a very desirable object to a great many of his young lady friends.

"I—er—thought I would like an early walk," Mr. Howard," she replied at last, stammeringly. "I am not going to marry you, but, pray, do not let me detain you."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

"I—er—thought I would like an early walk," Mr. Howard," she replied at last, stammeringly. "I am not going to marry you, but, pray, do not let me detain you."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

He stared at her for a moment and then burst into a hearty laugh. "Why, Miss Mason," he said, "what is the matter with you and why are you not going anywhere? You are usually early, and was much surprised that so innocent a question should cause the generally self-possessed Kitty so much uneasiness."

Prince Albert Cigarettes advertisement featuring an illustration of a man in a top hat and the text: 'OUR LEADING MEN ARE ENTITLED TO THE BEST THE MARKET AFFORDS.' Below the illustration is the name 'Louis G. Meser, Cigarist'.

OSTRACISED BY PEANUTS. A BACHELOR'S MISTAKE. He Rented His Fifth-Avenue Studio. New York Evening Sun.

There's a warning for bachelors in this tale. Some months ago a certain well-known magazine writer hired a studio at the junction of Broadway and Fifth Avenue. It was a fairly large room with two windows, the best of which looked out upon the city.

There's a warning for bachelors in this tale. Some months ago a certain well-known magazine writer hired a studio at the junction of Broadway and Fifth Avenue. It was a fairly large room with two windows, the best of which looked out upon the city.

There's a warning for bachelors in this tale. Some months ago a certain well-known magazine writer hired a studio at the junction of Broadway and Fifth Avenue. It was a fairly large room with two windows, the best of which looked out upon the city.

There's a warning for bachelors in this tale. Some months ago a certain well-known magazine writer hired a studio at the junction of Broadway and Fifth Avenue. It was a fairly large room with two windows, the best of which looked out upon the city.

There's a warning for bachelors in this tale. Some months ago a certain well-known magazine writer hired a studio at the junction of Broadway and Fifth Avenue. It was a fairly large room with two windows, the best of which looked out upon the city.

There's a warning for bachelors in this tale. Some months ago a certain well-known magazine writer hired a studio at the junction of Broadway and Fifth Avenue. It was a fairly large room with two windows, the best of which looked out upon the city.

disk fit, 32 inches. The shaft is hollow, the axle hole being 1 1/2 inches in diameter. The weight is 64.40 pounds.

To a Magazine Cover Girl. I'll not grieve your beauty, for indeed you're wondrous fair.

Western Reserve. Ohio Writer in Atlantic Monthly. "That was an Ohioan, it's everybody."

A Fraction. "What is a fraction?" "A part of anything, sir."

New Version. Harlem Life. Sundry-school Teacher—You may repeat the golden text.

Cheap. Cleveland Plain Dealer. "The War Department is buying balloons for the army."

Chicago Times-Herald. "Pa, what are extenuating circumstances?"

Reflection on Her Looks. "She is a regular walking encyclopedia," he said, speaking of the bright girl.

Force of Habit. Detroit Free Press. "Don't you think our neighbor a little eccentric?"

Gutrows It. "Paw," asked Tommy, "what becomes of a cowboy when he grows up?"

Brooklyn Life. "Frank—I knew Penn would be a poet when he was a baby."

Hard on the Leg. Chicago Tribune. "It's more painful to get well of a broken leg than to have it broken, isn't it?"

Somewhat Twisted. New York Press. "The Old Friend—I hear your daughter's wedding to Count Wimpoff is to be the richest of the season."

Insure with German Fire Insurance of Indiana. General Agents, 29 South Delaware street. Fire, tornado and explosion.