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MATINS.

[From Lippincott's Magazine for December.] From earth, gray mist, gray sky; Through vapors hazy, gray; Large clouds, white, blue, and red; All are faded, all are dead.

The dark mist hides the face of the dim and the face of the dim and the face of the dim; The dark mist hides the face of the dim and the face of the dim; The dark mist hides the face of the dim and the face of the dim.

Part is the long black night, With its keen lightning white; Thunder and lightning white; Thunder and lightning white; Thunder and lightning white.

The slender, golden gleam Of one thin, golden gleam; Sheels from the feathered rim; Sheels from the feathered rim; Sheels from the feathered rim.

From bush and hedge and tree; From bush and hedge and tree.

The shining mist is gone; The shining mist is gone.

Does not the morn break blue; Does not the morn break blue.

No halt, no rest for her; No halt, no rest for her.

ALL ABOUT IT. From Lippincott's Magazine. "Have you thought," said Phoebe, looking up suddenly, "that to-day begins the tenth year since mother died, and we are still here?"

"No, I had not counted the time. Father seems so happy with us, and so indifferent to all outside people, that I have stopped borrowing from my mother's death. Besides, he is seventy years old."

"Mother was very certain that he would marry again," said Phoebe, looking at her father with a certain amount of anxiety. "Yes, she had worried herself into the belief, thinking of your lameness; but if the word that she saw so plainly does fall at last, we can go away and live in a room or two together."

"What should we live on?" "The dinner of herbs, and contentment therewith." It would be but a lean stallion that we should leave behind us, you know.

"We will never take anything from father's income. He is too old to spare any of his small luxuries." "What is the use of talking about it? The first ten years are the critical time for a widow. If he comes out of it unscathed, to be sure, we shall live and die in our old home."

"Amen," said Phoebe. "Our mother had been a woman of great strength of character, unconsciously bearing up under the heaviest burden that could be laid upon her. She had been a woman of great strength of character, unconsciously bearing up under the heaviest burden that could be laid upon her."

"I am so glad you have come home safe, but must have been a tiresome journey," said she, as she leaned out of the doorway to kiss him.

"Not at all tiresome, for I have brought some of the friends whom I went to see. Won't you give me a kiss for the mother?"

"Who—oh, is it father?" I stammered with my tongue cleaving to the roof of my mouth.

"My wife. I did not have time to write," said she, leaning to spin round, and I fell back against the door. I had never fainter in my life, but this cruel surprise was too much.

"Don't take us so hard, Eleanor. I did it for the happiness of all," said father, in a tremulous tone.

"Let her smell of this," said the lady, taking a little bottle of haremora from a traveling bag.

"Hee clear, even tones acted on me like water dashed in my face. My mother's words sounded in my ears as if I then heard them for the first time. 'Your father can manage very well,' said she, 'but you can manage very well, too.'"

"Thank you very much," I said, "but I shall not need it. You must think it a sorry welcome to your new home if I faint at the sight of you. It was the sudden touch of night air when I had come from a warm bed. I am better now."

"The night air often has that effect. I always carry haremora with me, but I never have occasion to use it. I have a gleam of white teeth as my step-mother said this."

"I should hope not," I thought, but I said, "Won't you go into it? The materials for a cup of tea are on the table; I will make it for you when I am dressed." I felt that my

dignity might suffer if the morning light brightened and my stepmother saw me first in a night dress and a plain shawl.

"Then your father shall give you half his income," said she, leaning to spin round, and I fell back against the door. I had never fainter in my life, but this cruel surprise was too much.

"I wish I might have been your own mother," said my father's wife, kissing my cheek. We both laughed at this absurd sentiment, and parted very good friends.

"I shall not be disturbed," said she, as she laid down on one stony place already.

"She was very quiet and serious as she sat in my room, as if she knew as well as I did that to keep on talking to her would be my only defence from a flood of tears."

"Have you—have you told Phoebe?" father asked in a tone that made me feel that she would be sure to tell her.

"No, she was asleep. You speak as if we had been bad news, whereas she will be heartily glad at anything that makes you happy."

"He actually believed me (then as so easily deluded) and seemed from that moment to throw off any feeling of remorse concerning Phoebe and me and to give himself up to breakfast."

"Your room is in order, if you like to lie down until breakfast," said she, as she laid down on one stony place already.

"I think I should like to lie down," said she, as she laid down on one stony place already.

"I will be glad to see you," said she, as she laid down on one stony place already.

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bitter feeling. It is always better for the wind to blow between the houses of those who are very good friends."

"You are a rare woman," he said. "I had begun to think your type had disappeared from the face of the earth."

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