

HOLDING A HUSBAND

Adele Garrison's New Phase of...

REVELATIONS OF A WIFE

The Deal Lillian Made with Sammy.

Lillian and I made a hurried job of locking up my house for the night. The furnace fire banked properly, we made a quick tour of the rooms, locking doors and windows.

"If I were you," Lillian suggested, "I would leave a light in one room upstairs and one room below, with

curtains raised just enough to let the light shine out, but not enough to show that the rooms are empty. "A very good idea," I assented. "But—do you think those marauders are apt to come back tonight?"

"Not one chance in a million," Lillian returned promptly and convincingly, "but—it is always well to guard against the millionth chance. They might have been simply young hoodlums at that."

What Lillian Asked.

My heart quickened its beat. It was the first direct intimation Lillian had given of the theory I knew she must have mapped out concerning the wanton mischief of which my home had been the scene. But her last sentence certainly meant that she considered the theory of wanton hoodlumism as "one in a million." The professional burglar theory fell to the ground be-

cause nothing of value had been taken. In what direction, then, were her eyes pointing? She moved toward the door briskly, and I knew that my unasked question would not be answered. Therefore, I pushed it into a recess of my brain and closed the door tightly upon it until such time as Lillian should have unraveled the tangled threads of the twisted pattern which had been left for our study.

"Now for 'old Sammy,'" I said, a few minutes later, when the last window closed and the electric switches turned on, we stood upon the doorstep once more.

"The house is found very far from here?" Lillian asked. "No, just down the street at a small grocery store," I answered. "He does plain and fancy 'detecting' at night whenever he is called upon."

Lillian did not speak again until we were in the car and were turning out of the gateway into the road. "Would you mind telling this 'Sammy' that I have rented your house for a few weeks, and that I am his employer?" I want to give him a few directions and ask him a few questions—and—"

"You would rather I was out of the picture when you're doing it," I smiled promptly. "Of course, my dear."

"There was that in Lillian's voice when she answered me which made me flush with pleasure.

"Do you know what a dear you are!" she exclaimed. "Most women would drive me wild with curiosity and thwarted vanity at a request like that. But you know that I really have a very good reason for not wanting to trouble you with these crazy theories of mine until I have proved them true or false."

"Pleased Be Prepared." "Don't you think it is pretty late in the day for you to begin examing yourself to me?" I asked quietly.

"I stand corrected," she returned, and in another minute we had drawn up in front of a small building labeled "The Palace Grocery," in absurd contrast to the size and dilapidation of the building beneath the sign.

"By the pricking of my thumbs," Lillian quoted under her breath, "surely, this is 'Sammy!'"

I had time only for a quick assent before the man of whom I was in search hurriedly drew up the old nag he was driving out of the shop yard, hitched him to a convenient post, and came hobbling up to us.

"Well, well, Mis' Graham!" he said heartily, pulling off his cap. "It's sure fine to see you around here again. When did you get back?"

He was a friendly, kindly old figure as he stood looking up at me, his old eyes respectfully removed from his thatch of gray hair, his wrinkled face and faded blue eyes emphasizing by their expression the genuineness of his words.

"I came into New York yesterday," I said. "And how are Mr. Graham and the old lady and the baby, and the old gentleman?" I explained briefly that only Dick and I had come north, and that Lillian had rented our home for a few weeks.

"Mrs. Graham tells me," Lillian struck in, "that you are a very efficient guardian of houses at night."

"Well, if I do say it that shouldn't, there don't much git past me, if I am 'gitin' along in years and 'Suke' here—he put his bulging hip pocket affectionately—"my best girl, I call her, we've seen some pretty stirring events around these parts sometimes."

"I've no doubt," Lillian observed, "and I wish you would undertake the watching of Mrs. Graham's house until further notice, beginning tonight."

"You don't mean to say," he began excitedly, "that anything's been disturbed up there? Then I wasn't wrong yesterday afternoon." I could have sworn I knew that—and I looked at me in troubled fashion. Lillian spoke promptly:

"We must hurry back now, Mr. Hingham," for this is Sammy's legal cognomen. "What you call at Mrs. Durkee's house tonight, please be prepared to tell me anything you have observed."

Next: Why is Lillian So Cautious.

Kate is bored to death. She just hates the place she works in, and she can't bear a soul that works there with her.

Kate's a telephone girl and she has a pretty good job, as such jobs go. She's the head of the exchange in a big office and has the "say" as to who shall sit where, and whose watch it is and all that.

Everybody in the office knows Kate, and Kate knows everybody in the office. And she could have a whole lot of fun if she would. But no! She won't! Wouldn't for the world. People might think she wasn't any better than they are, and Kate can't bear that for a minute.

Kate is a good as anybody in the world—she knows she is—and she never loses a chance to show that she knows it.

There's the daughter of the head of the concern, for instance. Daughter came in the other day, and dropped her gloves right in front of Kate's desk and she didn't know what had become of them and worried and fussed and hunted all over the office, and she was late for her train and had to wait an hour in a drafty station and caught a

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bad cold and couldn't go to the party, and came near worrying her mother to death and everything. But Kate wasn't going to pick those gloves up and hand them or say a word about them—not she.

Kate's Method She was just as good as Daughter, every bit—and she'd like to see herself picking up anybody's gloves, thank you. Why, her mother never picked up her own gloves in her life—never even combed her own hair till Grandpa lost his money! And as for expecting Kate to make a servant of herself for anybody—well, I should think not!

And that little mix of a daughter, anyhow—with her head in the air and her silly little giggle—Kate would like to slap her—and so she would—just for feeling herself so important.

And the other day, when the wife of the head of the concern called up and wanted her husband in a hurry, Kate kept her waiting as long as she could—just to show her that she couldn't boss everybody, if her husband was rich. And the wife was going to say to her husband, and Husband wondered why she had called him up and interrupted him, and Kate made two perfectly good people a little bit uncomfortable and knew it and was glad of it.

Wasn't she as good as they were—and hadn't she shown them so? Poor Kate—what a time she does have teaching people what a wonder she is!

Now Nellie is different. Nellie is Kate's sister, and isn't a bit pretty, but she's rosy and smiling and her black hair shines like satin and her little white waist is always like snow and her smart little skirt never gaps or sags—and Nellie doesn't think she's as good as everybody. She never thinks about it at all.

She just thinks about what she's doing and how to do it the quickest and the best and the nicest way. The cashier likes Nellie and so does the bookkeeper. The office boy would die for her, and I saw the elevator man gazing after her with a regular home-and-mother look the other day.

Try Nellie's Way. Now Nellie would have picked up those gloves in a minute—why not? She drops her own gloves sometimes, and can't find them and she knows how it is. When the wife of the head of the concern calls up her husband, and Nellie's on the phone, she gets the "chief" the very instant she can, and has a little glow of satisfaction thinking how nice it is that she was able to put him on the wire just the very minute that sweet, motherly-looking wife of his wanted him.

Yes—Kate's as good as anybody—and a good deal better than some people—but Nellie, why! Nellie thinks that everybody is as good as she is, and she has the best time in the world thinking it.

Dear Nellie—the world will be a kindly place to her! May she never connect with the wrong number, or find the particular "chief" she's calling, busy at the wrong time!

INTERRUPTED. "Here is a letter it would hardly do for us to publish," said the patent-medicine man. "A man writes: 'I have just taken the first bottle of your medicine!'"

"Well?" said his partner. "There it breaks off short, and is signed in another handwriting. 'Per executor.'—Western Christian Advocate (Cincinnati)."

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- Front Quarter, about 8 to 10 lbs. average 20c
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