

MISS CHUFFY'S COWARDICE

By KATE CLEVES

Melinda Chuffy fastened the last window and locked the door leading to the side porch. Then she took her lamp and tiptoed softly upstairs very much as if she were afraid of waking somebody—all of which was quite unnecessary as she was all alone in the big house.

As Melinda talked half hysterically to herself she was dressing rapidly, finally slipping into the coolness of her black china silk gown. "If I am dressed in black no one can see me for the woods are dark," she shuddered. "I must take my pink shawl—black would look awful to a dying man—it's so queer I can't think of Ernest as anything except a little boy!"

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