

to be taken to what fate I know not... I'll be, then, and strive to cut your...

rior, Wulf, with starting eyes and a... face-like the face of a flame, shaking...

Then before he could answer, which he... seemed minded to do, there came the...

you back, Godwin, and listen." "The tale is yours, my cousins, and...

"I think so," said Wulf, "for, as... Rosamund here knows, the tall knave...

and if he could, would never pen words... so knightly." "The words may be knightly, but...

have been seen wending its way from... the old hall at Steeple. In it were...

CHAPTER II

Sir Andrew D'Arcy. Godwin dreamed that he was dead...

And the angel at his foot answered: "He died, red sword aloft, fighting a...

"Fighting for the cross of Christ!" "Nay, fighting for a woman."

"Alas! poor soul, sinful and unshriven, who died fighting for a woman's love..."

Now came another visitor. It was his father—the warrior squire whom he...

Then, at a muttered word, not waiting to be attacked by others, the brethren...

Wulf spoke few words and sharp: "Begone, girl; we guard the boat."

"Oh, my knights! my knights! And would you die for me? Well, if God wills it..."

"Cut them down, and to the boat! We shall take her before she reaches shore..."

For a moment they wavered, for the tall thin warriors who barred the way...

"Back!" said Godwin, "for here the road is wide and they will get behind us..."

So back they moved slowly, with their faces to the foe, stepping just in front of the first man, Godwin had...

"So far we have done well," said Wulf, with a short laugh. "Are you hurt?"

"Nay," answered his brother, "but boast not till the battle is over, for many are left and they will come on thus no more..."

Then he turned and looked behind him, and there, far from the shore, swam the gray horse steadily...

"Godwin was right. Although their leader commanded them in a stern voice, the band sank from the reach of those awful swords..."

"What a happy smile spread upon the face of Wulf, for now he knew that Godwin was himself again..."

"I will add that I think our lady counsel here should be knighted too, if such a thing were possible for a woman..."

"Well, cousin," said Wulf, "if you cannot be a knight, at least you can lessen all this dangerous rank of yours by becoming a knight's wife..."

"I must think no more of Rosamund. Could he do to the sake of the welfare of his soul in some future state?"

"Nay, but what knight's wife would I please either of us, brother, if, as may well hap, he should chance to be some stranger?"

Now Wulf swore a great oath, then flushed to the roots of his fair hair, and was silent.

"Ah!" said Godwin, "you do not think before you speak, which is always well to do."

"She swore upon the quay yonder," broke in Wulf, of what she swore. Words uttered in such an hour should not be remembered against a maid."

"God's truth, brother, you are right, as ever I was. My tongue runs away with me, but still I can't forget those words, though evil of us—"

"I mean to say that we are in Fortune's path to-day, Godwin. Oh, that was a lucky ride! Such fighting as I have never seen or dreamed of..."

"Yes, both of us alive, thanks to you, Wulf—nay, it is so, though you would never have done less. But as for Fortune's path..."

"Then, passing the reins over his left arm, Wulf leaped upon the back of his own horse and turned it. Ten seconds more, and the brethren were gathered with the oars which the paths joined at the root of the causeway..."

"Hold fast!" he cried, "by mane and pommel. Keep your mind and hold fast and I will save you yet!"

Then, passing the reins over his left arm, Wulf leaped upon the back of his own horse and turned it. Ten seconds more, and the brethren were gathered with the oars which the paths joined at the root of the causeway...

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