

## Chapters From a Woman's Life

By Jane Phelps

### Chapter 1

When I became Walter Page's wife it seemed to me that no one could be, or ever was, as happy as I. Walter was an artist who already had made something of a name for himself, although he was not quite 30 years old. His income was a comfortable one. It would give us all the comforts and some of the luxuries of life. He was handsome, gay, debonair, and irresponsible. Beauty in any form appealed to him—feminine beauty perhaps most of all, and, if not simply portraits, most of his pictures contained female figures.

Just before we married, Claire Gordon said to me:

"I'd be as jealous as could be of an artist, Doreen—especially one so handsome and attractive as Walter. I should hate his models, I know I should."

"Nonsense! They are no more to Walter than a piece of furniture. They are simply a part of the picture he is painting." But unconsciously Claire had put her finger upon the one sore spot in my happiness, the "fly in my ointment." I loved Walter devotedly, and trusted him—yet when I thought of him spending hours in his studio with some lovely girl something very like fear gripped me, only to be gone at his first loving word, his kiss.

I had suggested we take an apartment large enough so he might have his studio in it, but he quickly and decidedly vetoed the idea.

"Why, darling, I couldn't work! I'd be making love to you. And I want to make a big success now I have you to work for." So we took an apartment some distance from his studio, planning later to buy a small house in some suburb, and have what he called a "real home."

I had met Walter while visiting Claire Gordon, and he had followed me to my home near Boston and urged a short engagement. So scarcely three months after I met him we were married. Father did not quite like such haste, but Walter won Mother—as he did all women, and she sided with us, so that Father had to give in. But I remember Father said:

"Have your own way, but there's an old saying, Doreen, 'marry in haste, repent at leisure.' Be careful you don't prove its truth."

"Don't ever worry about that, Father. Why, I'm the happiest girl in the world!" was my answer, and I was. I was an only child. My girlhood had been a happy one. We were comfortably off, I had pretty clothes, and could entertain my friends. Father was a physician, a "country doctor" he called himself when either Mother or I scolded him for going out in all weathers, at all hours, to look after people from whom he could expect no fee.

"We'd be rich if your patients paid you!" I would grumble.

"I am rich in their thanks, and the knowledge that I have helped them," he would reply. "They haven't any money to give me. I'll have to tuck on a few dollars to some of the bills of those who can afford to pay if you are hinting for a new dress."

When I was married Mother gave me a very nice wardrobe, Father poking me about how much they would save when they no longer had me to dress. But I caught him wiping his glasses after he spoke, and knew he was sad at the thought of losing me. But while I loved them both dearly, nothing could dampen my joy in becoming Walter's wife.

I was rather pleased when he told me he had few relatives, and that they lived in the far west. His father had passed away, and his mother lived with a niece. I would have all to myself.

"Mother seldom comes East, she dislikes to travel. But I shall tell her she must come soon and get acquainted with her new daughter," he told me.

Upon our arrival in New York we went to a small hotel until we—rather, until Walter could select the furniture for our apartment. He laughingly told me I wasn't artistic and that he'd have the "willies" if his home wasn't attractive.

"Like as not I'd stay away," he said lightly.

"I wouldn't care if it was the ugliest

### THE YOKE

It's a hard Cross to bear, when back breaking effort and sore knuckles have produced nothing but sorrowful results in laundering. It's your fault if you lose a good servant through unwarranted criticism. It's your fault if your clothes are streaked and yellow when all you have to do is to step to the telephone and call your nearest grocer for the big package of Howitt's Easy Task Borax Soap Flakes.—Advertisement.

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place in the world if you were there," I returned.

"Well, I would! So you'd better let me select the hangings and such things. You go ahead with the essentials, the kitchen stuff and all that." This I did happily, not realizing that perhaps this was the place I would take in his life—relegated to essentials.

## PARIS SHOPS HAVE DEFINITE RULE ON REFUSAL OF CREDIT

Pairs stores, and, indeed, three-quarters of the Paris shops, lay down as a definite rule that no credit can be extended to their customers, says H. G. Cardozo, in the Louisville-Courier Journal. On this point they are inexorable.

The exception to this rule, and perhaps the only one, is that the fashion artists of the Rue de la Paix and its costly neighborhood still allow fair and well-known clients to run up extensive bills. Dresses and coats, frocks and lingerie, can still be had for the signing of an order form, and some of the best Paris houses acknowledge, to their regret, that the bad debts in their business amount sometimes to 25 per cent of their turnover.

Everywhere else, however, the motto of the Paris shopman seems to be: "Grant every wish of the customer as long as he, or more often she, pays on the nail."

Take Back Goods. A well-known weakness of women shoppers is that they never really know their minds. And in Paris the facility for the return of purchased goods is carried to the very extreme. Silks and stuffs that have been cut off by the yard and do not suit the customer will be patiently taken back.

Goods that have been kept for months may be returned. I know of a wealthy Parisienne who was staying at a well-known seashore resort in central France last year and wanted some colored jumpers. She wrote to her favorite stores, and, being a true Parisienne, told them to send her half a dozen of assorted colors.

They came, she paid for them, and kept them to choose which she would like. None of them seemed to please her. Some were too bright and some were too dull. Some suited her complexion but not her dress, and others the reverse.

"I will wait till I get to Deauville," she said, "and see what is being worn there."

She did. July passed and so did August and finally in September she returned to Paris and the jumpers were returned to the stores. A day later madame received a polite note, inclosing a cash order.

Take Great Pains. In another case a pretty young girl bought a length of pink silk brocade. After three weeks she returned it with a request that a similar length be sent her in black, as she had to go into mourning.

The silk department wrote back to state they regretted that the factory where the stuff was woven had been closed down owing to a strike, but that they had sent a piece of gray brocade to be dyed.

This fabric was dispatched to the

## What Is Artistic Temperament?

Is it the natural, justifiable and necessary accompaniment of genius—or is it the artist's weak and cruel excuse for selfishness and egotism?

This is the question Doreen asked herself after she married Walter Page, the well-known artist.

Must an artist's wife sacrifice all her likes, her ideas, her plans, her happiness, her life to this "artistic temperament" because it is Genius—or should Genius be made to remember that it, too, is human, responsible to its home and family, and must be bound by the rules that make for human happiness just as others are bound?

This is the problem Doreen Page had to solve—

## "Chapters From a Woman's Life"

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By JANE PHELPS

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client within a fortnight, but was, however, scornfully rejected, owing to the fact that it had slightly shrunk in the process of dyeing.

The department manager wrote again, begging for a little more time, and three weeks later he forwarded the requisite number of yards of black brocade. He had sent a special traveler to the factory that was closed to obtain the best patterns and specification of the brocade and had had fifty pieces of it woven in another mill.

## Heart Problems

Dear Mrs. Thompson: My girl friend invited me over to meet a young man. He seemed to like me and I liked him. When he took me home he asked if he might come in a minute. He only stayed fifteen minutes and left at eleven o'clock. About a week later the same girl invited both of us to her house for Sunday supper. He asked



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to come in again when we got home, and again he didn't stay long. Is it his place or mine to ask him to come to see me?

### IN DOUBT.

It is your place to invite the young man to come to see you, and his place to set the time. You might, however, follow your girl friend's example and have your friends in for Sunday night tea. If you invite others besides the young man he will have no occasion to think you are running after him.

## Officials Are Alarmed At Postal Savings Drop

WASHINGTON — Rapid decline of postal savings deposits is alarming the postoffice department. There has been a falling off of \$41,203,000 since the peak of 1919, most of the decrease taking place in the last few months.

The significance of this lies in the fact that these deposits are always referred to by the department as a barometer of employment conditions.

Accordingly, the sharp drop at a time when administration leaders are urging the country with reports of prosperity is a discordant note.

Assistant Postmaster General Glover admits "the department has a sick child on its hands, which even medical skill of Dr. Work, postmaster general, has been unable to revive."

In the bones and their arrangement there is a close resemblance between the flipper of the whale and the human hand.

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## Even the Orient

Now cleans teeth this new way

Do you know that careful people of some fifty nations are now brushing teeth in a new way? And largely by dental advice?

If you have not learned what that method means, make this test and see.

### They combat film

This new way fights the film on teeth—that viscous film you feel.

Film clings to teeth, enters crevices and stays. It absorbs stains, then forms dingy coats. Tartar is based on film.

It also holds food substance which ferments and forms acids. It holds the acids in contact with the teeth to cause decay. Germs breed by millions in it. They, with tartar, are the chief cause of pyorrhea.

Most tooth troubles are due to film. So are most cloudy teeth. Under old methods very few escaped them, for no ordinary

tooth paste can effectively combat film.

### New methods now

Dental science has long sought to solve the problem of that film. Two methods have been found. One acts to curdle film, one to remove it, and without any harmful scouring.

Able authorities have proved their efficiency. Now dentists the world over are advising their daily use.

A new-type tooth paste has been created, based on modern research. The name is Pepsodent. In that tooth paste are embodied those two great film combatants.

### Fights acids, too

Pepsodent also multiplies the alkalinity of the saliva. That is there to neutralize mouth acids, the cause of tooth decay.

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