



The SKY PIRATE

By Garrett P. Serviss
Illustrated by Parker.

(Continued From Yesterday.)

Synopsis of Pleading Chapters.
Supt. Alfonso Payton, the sky pirate kidnaps Helen Grayman, New York's richest girl, and carries her away in his airplane, the Chameleon. He poses as Commodore Brown.
She thinks her abduction is a practical joke. Payton takes her to his lodge in a Labrador wilderness. William Grayman, her father, secretly summons the police.
By wireless telephone Payton demands \$10,000,000 ransom from Grayman, who agrees to meet him at Tribes Hill with the money. Grayman plans to trap the pirate.

Accordingly Mr. Grayman, although greatly surprised that any of his confidential correspondents should summon him thus, replied in the manner indicated:
"Hello! What do you want?"
"William Grayman?" came the response, interrogatively inflected.
"Yes."
"Himself—in person?"
"Yes."
"Very good. In the air."
This last phrase may also need a word of explanation. It is used to indicate that the interlocutor is aloft and that he either does not know or does not take the trouble to designate his position in the atmosphere by reference to some known point on the earth's surface.
"Who is it?" demanded Mr. Grayman.

"Captain Alfonso Payton."
"Who? I don't know such a person. Who are you? I can't bother."
"I am afraid, Mr. Grayman," interrupted the voice, "that you confine your attention a little too exclusively to the financial columns of the newspapers if you don't recognize my name. Yet I might well figure in them also. My transactions are frequently large enough, as you are going to find out. Most people know me as the sky pirate."
"What nonsense is this?" exclaimed Mr. Grayman impatiently. "How have you dared?"
"No nonsense at all, Mr. Grayman," the voice again interrupted, "and as for daring, listen. I took your daughter Helen from your house last night, and she, with her maid Susan, are here on my aero, the Chameleon."
Grayman's heart nearly stopped beating.

"What? What is that?" he exclaimed.
"I have your daughter in my custody," the voice responded with distinct deliberation. "She is in no danger of any kind and will be in no none provided that you accede promptly to the terms which I am going to give you. If you do not you will never see her again."
There was a cold, self-confident, convincing tone to the voice that sent a shiver through the billionaire's nerves. He wiped the cold sweat from his brow with one hand, while with the other he clung to the receiver and pressed it to his ear. The strange voice went on, for he was incapable for the moment of interruption or reply:
"If you meet my demand she will be restored to you without publicity and without injury. You are the richest man in the world, they say. You best know how you have acquired your riches, but that is no affair of mine. I have, however, pressing need of a part of your plunder. My terms are \$10,000,000."
"What infernal trick are you trying on me?" exclaimed Mr. Grayman, losing his temper and at the same time recovering his nerve and the incredulity natural to a man in such circumstances. "Who are you anyway? I'll hear no more of this!"
"It must be that some crank has found out my number," said the billionaire to himself. "I must see the company about this."
He was about to drop the receiver when the voice began again:
"If you want to see your daughter

again, Mr. Grayman, you'll not try to cut off this conversation. If you still don't know me ask any newspaper man or almost any man in the street who Alfonso Payton is and what he does when he makes a good capture and gets no response to a fair offer. I repeat that I have your daughter. I took her from the window of her room with my aero last night. I will release her for the sum that I have named. Ten million dollars will leave hardly a perceptible vacancy in your pocket, but that which will happen to your daughter if you fail to pay will pickle your heart in vinegar. I know you have a heart—for her."

Mr. Grayman's anger vanished again, and a cold fear began to take its place. His incredulity vanished also. His daughter was gone, and this might really be the explanation of her disappearance. He suddenly remembered to have heard of Payton and his evil doings. He recalled the name of the Chameleon also.
The voice began again, and Mr. Grayman could but listen:
"I beg you, for your own and your daughter's sake, not to make the mistake of thinking that this is a trick. What I am telling you is the exact truth. I hold the girl, and I have all the trumps in my hand. Don't think

The billionaire sank back into his chair, his thoughts still in a whirl. But he could not get away from the conviction that his daughter was really the pirate's prisoner. The question was how to rescue her. There must be no false steps. The scoundrel had apparently placed himself in his hands by giving him a rendezvous. But there might be danger both to himself and to his daughter in trying to outwit him. He must consult the chief of police.



"Where are you?"
of the police. They can't help you. No one ever succeeded in running me down, and no one ever will. Now give me your answer. Will you deal with me for the life and honor of your daughter or will you not? Yes or no. If yes, I will tell you how to proceed. If no, I shall lose no time in making Helen wish that she had had a father who loved her."
During all of this extraordinary conversation Payton, in the cabin of the Chameleon, with Helen only a few feet away, was sending his messages "directed," and consequently his words were heard only by Mr. Grayman, but the latter's replies were "undirected" and might have been heard by a hundred persons in a hundred different places, although, of course, they would have possessed no significance.
As Grayman recalled what he had heard and read of Payton a horrible sensation came over him. Helen must be rescued at once! He must temporize with this villain and get the better of him when he could. What harm to promise the ten millions? In his heart he felt that he would willingly give them to have his daughter once more in his arms. In the turmoil of his spirit he

lost a whole minute. Suddenly a sharp ring came, and the voice, very grave, said:

"Come! No fooling, Mr. Grayman. I have your daughter right here in my hands. No power under God can save her if you do not answer me instantly."
"I dare not say 'no,'" thought the billionaire, "for all this may be true. I'll answer 'yes,' and then we shall see."

Accordingly he spoke the word.
"I congratulate you on your good sense, Mr. Grayman," came the instant response, "and on your fatherly affection. Have no fear now. Helen shall not be harmed unless you attempt treachery. Remember that! Now I'll tell you how to proceed. In two days go to the bluff overlooking the Mohawk river, at Tribes Hill, New York. I'll be there, and we will arrange for the payment of the money and the simultaneous delivery of the girl at another place. You may come armed if you like, but you must have no friends on the ground, and you must not come in an aero. We will meet alone, man to man, and I pledge you my word, which I have never broken, that no personal injury will be offered to you. I have your daughter, which is all I need. I shall not gain, but lose, by offering any violence to you. Simply remember that there must be no treachery. Goodbye."
Mr. Grayman called out, "Where are you?" But this time there was no response. The conversation was ended.

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"Do you know Alfonso Payton?" Mr. Grayman asked as soon as the commissioner entered. The latter stared dumfounded.
"Payton hasn't got her, has he? Then God help you!" he blurted out.
"Yes; I fear that that is the situation. I have just had a talk with the outlaw, who called me up by wireless from nowhere and demanded \$10,000,000 ransom."
"Ten million dollars!" cried the commissioner.
"Yes, \$10,000,000," Mr. Grayman responded testily. "Do you think that that would break me, or do you think that my daughter is not worth it?"
Mr. Grayman's irritation arose from the remembrance of Payton's insolent tones as he had made the demand, and the commissioner winced at his angry glance. Then he begged pardon, explaining that such sums were unusual in his arithmetic. Mr. Grayman was mollified, and proceeded to tell the story of the conversation by wireless.
"And now I think we've got him," he wound up.
"I'm not so sure," replied the commissioner, who had recovered his aplomb. "Alfonso Payton is the skillfullest crook alive. He gave you 'in the air' for location and told you to respond 'undirected,' didn't he?"
"He did."
"Well, he always does. You see, this wireless telegraph and telephone business is an enormously powerful lever in his hands. In former times kidnapers had to write letters, and letters can be traced, but Payton carries his victims off in a swift aero that nobody has ever been able to follow—a perfect witch of a thing, according to all reports—and then he talks ransom with their friends from heaven knows where. He leaves no track and no clues in the air. I've never had to deal with him myself, for this is the first time that he has ventured into New York, but I've heard all about him from different parts of the country."
"He gave me a precise address where to meet him," said Grayman.
"And do you think you'll catch him there?"
"How can he hope to get the money if he doesn't meet me?"
"Ah, I see that you are not up to the tricks of these crooks. Payton will

watch the place from his aero like a hawk. If he sees any signs of a trap you might as well try to catch a bird by putting salt on its tail."

"What then? Would you have me tamely pay over \$10,000,000 and not try to catch the wretch?"

"I don't say that," the commissioner responded thoughtfully. "But if it were an ordinary sum I might."
"Humph!" exclaimed Mr. Grayman. "Then you won't try to help me?"
"On the contrary, I will. But we have got to go to work with extreme caution."
"Tell me your plan, then."
"I've got no plan yet. It needs thinking over."

"Think quick, then, and you can name your price if you show me a way to get this infamous reprobate into my power. But before and above all I must have my daughter safe in my hands."
"That's just the difficulty. You have two days, you say. Tribes Hill is within four hours' journey by rail from New York. Give me until tomorrow to arrange my plan."
Mr. Grayman curbed his impatience and assented.
"Remember, absolute secrecy," he said.
"I shall remember," the commissioner replied. "Expect me tomorrow at noon, and if human ingenuity can trap Alfonso Payton I shall have him under lock and key within forty-eight hours."

CHAPTER IV.
HALF A DISCOVERY IN THE WOODS.

MISS GRAYMAN was the first to awake on the morning following their arrival at Payton's mysterious lodge, and immediately she called Susan.
"I am so in hopes that my friends have arrived," she said. "I want to get downstairs as soon as possible."
Susan hastily dressed herself, her mistress in her impatience performing her toilet unaided, and then they descended. It was not much after 5 o'clock, but Payton, as usual, met them in the hall.
"Please send Susan back at once to get your wraps, Miss Grayman," he said. "It is cold this morning, but you will enjoy a spin on the water to give you an appetite for breakfast."
"But my friends?"
"Oh, not so early!" he said, laughing. "They have laid up for the night, not being as familiar with the woods as I am, but they'll be along in the course of the morning. Send, I beg you, for your wraps. You cannot divine how charming the woods are at this hour. Every bird is awake, and the trout are leaping for joy."

Miss Grayman concealed her disappointment and sent Susan for the wraps. Once more in Payton's company, she felt her spirits revive. He was more entertaining than ever. And the air, the water and the forest were equally delightful—so cool, fresh, fragrant and musical. It was a new life for Miss Grayman, and she began to feel the zest of it. Her thought of yesterday came to her again, and once more her face flushed.
If her friends really had intended to throw her into the company of Commodore Brown and get her interested in him in this unconventional way before a formal presentation she was hardly disposed to find fault with them for the indiscretion.

He paddled them up the stream to a pool below the rapids. The trout were flashing on all sides in the bright morning air, and here and there along the shore strange birds rose and fluttered off at their approach.
They landed in a little bight among the rocks and stepped out on the elastic-bed of brown pine needles.
"See here," and he pointed to a depression alongside a huge stump; "a bear slept there last night."
"A bear?"
"Yes. Look; here are some of its hairs. And just come this way a bit," and he approached a sandy spot on the shore. "Do you see those hoof prints? Three deer have taken a drink here before you were up."
"Oh, I should so love to see a real wild deer!"
"Then perhaps I'll show you one before you are a day older. And if you are skillful in the sports of Diana we may have some venison of your killing."

"I believe I can fire a gun without shutting my eyes," said Miss Grayman, laughing. "But of course we shall postpone the proof until the arrival of the others."
"Of course, and they ought to arrive at any moment now."
Upon their return one of the men she had seen on the Chameleon approached and handed a slip of paper to Payton. He read it and, frowning, snapped his fingers, exclaiming, half under his breath: "By Jove, that's really too bad! I am sorry to have to announce a slight mishap, which, while it accounts for the delay of our friends, also makes it certain that they cannot reach us this morning."
The blood fled from Miss Grayman's face. She felt an inexplicable premonition of evil.
"Oh, don't let it distress you," said Payton cheerfully. "Here, please read this dispatch, just come by wireless. I have electric communication with all parts, so we are not lost, you see."
He held the paper before her, covering the lower corner where the signature would be with his thumb.
"The secret isn't open yet, you know," he said with a deprecatory smile. "and of course I can't let you see the name."
She read:
Brown, Camp Bear:
Aero broken down near Pettytown. Bring repair tools. All send greetings and regrets to Miss Grayman.

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Schlitz
Brown Bottle

Light starts decay even in pure beer.

Dark glass gives protection against light.

The brown bottle protects Schlitz purity from the brewery to your glass.

Our barley is selected by one of the partners in our business.

We go to Bohemia for hops.

The water is brought from rock 1,400 feet underground.

Not only is Schlitz

beer filtered through white wood pulp, but even the air in which it is cooled is filtered.

It is aged for months in glass enameled tanks. It cannot cause biliousness. It will not ferment in your stomach.

If you knew what we know about beer, you would say, "Schlitz—Schlitz in Brown Bottles."

Phones: Bell 264
Auto, 1254
Bert Ramsay & Co.
Soo S. Oregon, El Paso

The Beer That Made Milwaukee Famous

BUILDING BOOM IN PROGRESS AT PECOS

New Railroad Station Is Almost Completed—Two More Planned.

Pecos, Texas, July 14.—Work on the Lipscomb building, which was destroyed by fire in this city several months ago, is about completed and the leaders of the new building with begin moving in about July 15. A feature of this building is that it will be the first building constructed in Pecos to use El Paso county mica as a finishing product. The mica used will be from the mines of the Pecos Mica Manufacturing company, located about 33 miles from this city in El Paso county. It is the same mica as is to be used as a coating on several new buildings to be constructed in El Paso.
This mica, now made in about 50 different shades, is being used all over the United States as a finisher for the outside of buildings. It gives the building a finish like granite.
Work on the Pecos high school has progressed to the extent where all the brick work is complete and the inside is receiving attention. This building must be ready, according to contract, by Sept. 5. It will cost \$22,350.
Work on the new Texas & Pacific station, costing \$22,500, is progressing nicely. This station will not be a union depot, as erroneously reported heretofore. It will be used exclusively by the Texas & Pacific railway. Efforts have been made, however, to try to get the Pecos Valley Southern railway to enter the new station.
The Pecos Valley Southern and the Santa Fe will doubtless construct separate stations, the first road shortly.
Work on the new \$10,000 Cowan building is being pushed also on the El Paso Store building and various other buildings throughout the city.
Approximately \$110,000 worth of new buildings are under construction in Pecos today. In addition to this may be added \$10,000 to be spent on the new Pecos Carnegie public library. Also other work under construction here could be added to this total, such for instance as new cement sidewalks. The city has ordered sidewalks over most of the business section of the city where they are not at present.

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VAN HORN TO VOTE COURTHOUSE BONDS

Jail Bonds Also to Be Voted on at Election to Be Held Soon.

Van Horn, Texas, July 14.—The commissioners' court was in session this week and ordered an election for the purpose of issuing bonds in the amount of \$75,000 for the purpose of erecting, in the town of Van Horn, a court house and jail for the use of Culberson county.
Judge James K. Little, of Kent, Texas, spent Monday and Tuesday with his son, Jaques T. Little. The judge tells that he will move to Van Horn just as soon as he can secure a house in which to live.
Mrs. T. H. Yarbrow is visiting relatives in Van Horn and vicinity this week.
Samuel W. White, county attorney of Culberson county, is visiting his family at Pecos this week and closing out his business at that place.
Miss Mabel Jones, of Brownwood, is visiting relatives and friends in and near Van Horn this week.
E. C. King, of Midland, Texas, spent several days this week prospecting in Van Horn and vicinity for the purpose of investing in Culberson county property.
Miss Neva Yarbrow was in from the Eagle Mountain ranch several days this week visiting relatives and friends.
E. P. Groves, of Midland, Texas, is here this week looking after the lumber yard and hardware store recently purchased by him from the Cox Hardware and Lumber company.
John Leatherman, of Kent, is visiting relatives and friends in Van Horn and vicinity this week.
W. D. Garren was in from the ranch several days this week in attendance upon his duties during the sessions of the commissioners' court.
Albert Tatam, of Kent, Texas, is in Van Horn this week visiting relatives and friends.
J. Kantor, of El Paso, was a business visitor in Van Horn and vicinity several days this week.
Russell Durrill, of Plateau, Texas, spent several days this week in Van Horn, in attendance at the commissioners' court.
Ben Biggs, of Pecos, Texas, was prospecting in and near Van Horn Monday and Tuesday.
Fred G. Irby, of Kent, Texas, spent several days this week attending the sessions of the commissioners' court.
W. N. Roberts, of Pecos, was a business visitor in Van Horn Tuesday and Wednesday.
J. M. Daugherty, of the Figure 2 ranch, spent several days in Van Horn

WEST TULAROSA PERSONAL NOTES.

West Tularosa, N. M., July 14.—L. E. Lumby and W. D. Mayfield have returned from Alamogordo, N. M., where they have been attending the Tularosa water suit.
Grant Otis of the Tularosa bank has been very ill for the past few days, but is reported better.
D. G. Baldwin and daughter Mathilde, left here on their way to New Orleans.
Ex-governor Geo. Curry is expected here today.
A party of four of the prominent young people of Tularosa left for a visit to Mesquite a few days ago. The party consisted of Misses Bourne and Martin, and Messrs. John and Hazard Hall.
Will Bourne is here for a few days visiting his father, C. C. Bourne.

HOW TO DESTROY THE DANDRUFF GERM

BY A SPECIALIST.
That the dandruff germ is responsible for all the diseases to which the scalp is heir, as well as for baldness and premature gray hair, is a well known fact, but when we realize that it is also indirectly responsible for many of the worst cases of catarrh and consumption, we appreciate the importance of any agent that will destroy its power. We are, therefore, particularly pleased to give here with the prescription which an eminent scientist states he has found after repeated tests to completely destroy the dandruff germ in from one to three applications. It will also almost immediately stop falling hair and it has in numerous cases produced a new hair-growth after years of baldness. This prescription can be used at home, or any druggist will put it up for you: 5 ounces Bay Rum, 2 ounces Lavona de Campose, one-half drachm Scenthol Crystals. Mix thoroughly, and after standing half an hour it is ready for use. Apply night and morning, rubbing into the scalp with the fingers. If you wish it perfumed, add half a teaspoonful of To-Kalon Perfume, which unites perfectly with the other ingredients. While this preparation is not a dye, it is unqualified for restoring gray hair to its original color.
CAUTION: Do not apply where hair is not desired and be sure to avoid routes containing poisonous wood alcohol.
Before publication we presented this prescription to A. E. Ryan & Co. of this city, and they state that they have filled it many times for their patrons who report most astonishing results from its use.



The Great Hans Wagner is enthusiastic about the delicious, refreshing and thirst-quenching goodness of Coca-Cola

He says it is the only beverage he ever drank that has vim, vigor and go to it—that quenches his thirst to stay quenched, and that has no let down after-effects.

Delicious — Refreshing — Wholesome
5c Everywhere

Send 2c stamp for our booklet, "The Truth About Coca-Cola" and that clever and useful scoring device, the Coca-Cola Perpetual Counter.

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY
Atlanta, Ga.

Whenever you see an Arrow think of Coca-Cola

(To Be Continued.)