

Linda Lee In

LOUIS JOSEPH VANCE



BEGIN HERE TODAY
 After five years of married life, LUCINDA DRUCE decided that wealth, youth, beauty and social position were not sufficient for happiness. The heavy drinking and promiscuous flirtation of her husband, BELLAMY, had destroyed his wife's love for him and he has been warned that his next escapade will mean a definite break. Events are in this state when Lucinda visits the studio of ALMA DALEY, motion picture queen on the invitation of HARRY LONTAINE, husband of her school-girl chum, FANNY LONTAINE. Lontaine is about to form a moving picture company in California. Lucinda is greatly interested in the work at the studio but laughingly rejects Alma Daley's offer of a chance to appear in the next picture. That evening, at the Palais Royal, Lucinda is dancing with Daubeny when an intoxicated couple crash into them and fall to the floor. **GO ON WITH THE STORY**
 Derisive cackles and guffaws of clowns broke out on all sides, a space was cleared round the unfortunate. "Are you all right, Cindy?" Dobbin asked. She nodded and tried to smile. "Let's get out of this."
 "No—wait!" Lucinda insisted. Perhaps she's hurt."
 She brushed her arm aside, only to discover that the overthrown woman had regained her feet, and now stood watching her partner in shrewish fury as grinning foolishly, he scrambled up. "You clumsy dummell!" she stormed in a rasping voice that must have carried clearly half across the room. "I hope to Gawd I got enough sense not to dance with you again when you're pickled!"
 And catching her first glimpse of the man's crimson face, Lucinda yielded all at once to Daubeny's insistence.
 "But she never quite knew how they got back to their table."
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 But even with the three sides of the box affording their false show of privacy, it never entered Lucinda's head to sit down and pretend nothing had happened. The instinct to fly at once from this theater of disgrace was still predominant. Only for a moment she rested standing, while her eyes darkly dilate sought Daubeny's. "You saw him, of course?"
 Dobbin made a vague gesture of sympathy. "Frightfully sorry."
 "Lucinda shrugged. "Don't be. It wasn't your fault."
 "I presume we couldn't have been mistaken," Dobbin ventured half-heartedly.
 "No, it was Bel. I think I'd like to go. Let me have the carriage-check, and I'll wait in the car."
 Daubeny surrendered the pasteboard slip and called for the check as Lucinda went out.
 At the street door she gave the attendant the carriage-check together with a coin. "And hurry, please!" The man saluted respectfully and vanished.
 She hastened to the street, a move which she found immediate reason to repent. Only a few feet away Bellamy stood with an affectionate arm round the shoulders of the doorman. A knot of grinning bystanders had already begun to gather.
 Bel's derby was periodically perched, his overcoat, donned in haste, was poorly settled on his shoulders, and he had contrived to worry two buttons through the wrong buttonholes, and he was explaining, unconsciously to everybody within a wide radius, the personal service he required in return for the ten dollar bill which he was waving beneath the porter's nose.
 "Now, lishn, Jim . . . Do'mind my callin' you Jim, do you, ol' scout?"
 "My wife's here 't'night 'nd I don't want her to know I wash here, shee? If she don't know I wash here, she's got nothin' on me, nothin' 't'all, shee? So you don't know me, you never heard of me, shee?"
 "Yes, Mr. Druce."
 Sick with mortification, Lucinda turned from the sound of that babbling voice of the fool and heard her own name pronounced.
 "The car is here, Mrs. Druce."
 In a wild stare she identified the face of her chauffeur, saw that he understood the situation and was anxious to be helpful.
 "Wait," she quavered.
 And then by a miracle of will-power she managed to master her nerves and, putting aside her horror and humiliation, took thought quickly and clearly.
 "All I wan' you to do ish remember, if Mishish Druce asks if you've seen me, you never heard of me, don't know me 't'all—shee, Jim, get what I mean?"
 As Lucinda approached the porter must have guessed who she was, for he spoke to Bellamy in a low voice, and the latter swung round with startled eyes and drooping jaw. She closed her fingers on his wrist and put all her strength into that grasp.
 "Come, Bel," she said clearly and not unkindly. "Please don't keep me waiting. The car is here, we're going home."
 For a moment the balance wavered, then Bel's eyes fell, and she knew she had won.
 "Oh, a right," he mumbled with strange docility. "Didn't know you were waitin', Linda. Get ri' in the car—be with you in jush a minute."
 "No," she said firmly—"you're coming with me now."
 She drew him away. He yielded without remonstrance, permitted her to lead him to the door of the car, stumbled in on his knees, and crawled up to the seat and Lucinda followed. The door closed behind her with a clap sweeter

than music in her hearing. And with purring gears the car shot out of range of those leering faces.
 Lucinda had forgotten Dobbin as utterly as if she had never known him.
 Bellamy lay in a loose slouch, breathing heavily. The passing lights revealed the stupidity of his congested features. His eyes were half-closed, he seemed to be asleep.
 When at length the car stopped she jumped out and, leaving Bellamy to the care of the chauffeur, ran up to her rooms. The maid waiting there she dismissed for the night in half a dozen words whose decision sent the woman from her in astonishment.
 Alone, her first move was to secure the door communicating with Bel's room. Then she threw herself upon the bed. She heard the door open, and she heard the valet's incoherent "The Bel mauderin' incoherently to be trying to make him listen to reason, then a thick cry and the thud of a fall. After that the quiet was little disturbed by the valet's labors with the body of the drunkard. Eventually the man went out and closed the door. In the subsequent silence the clock chimed twelve.
 Lucinda rose then, and changed to her simplest street suit.
 For half an hour or so she was busy at desk and dressing-table packing cheque book and her jewels with other belongings in a small hand-bag. She did not falter once or waste a single move through indecision. Indeed, it did not once occur to her that there was anything to be done but what she meant to do.
 Shortly after one o'clock, she left Bel snoring, crept down the stairs and with infinite stealth let herself out to the street.
 Spurred by irrational fear lest Bellamy wake up, discover her flight and give chase, Lucinda made in haste for Fifth avenue; a cab slid up to the curb, its driver with two fingers to his cap soliciting a fare. Lucinda breathed the first address that came to mind—"Grand Central please"—hopped in, and shrank fearfully away from the windows.
 At the station a negro porter with a red cap opened the cab door and took possession of her single piece of luggage, and when she had paid off the taxi and looked to him in indecision, prompted her with: "Whut train was yo' wishin' to tek, ma'm?"
 An instant later Lucinda was wondering why she replied: "The first train for Chicago, please."
 She knew no reason why she should have named Chicago rather than any other city where she was unknown and where she might count on being free to think things out in her own time and fashion.
 "Inexpressibly shocked. Arriving tomorrow. Will call on you ten a. m. Meanwhile Bank of Michigan will supply you with funds in any amount you may require if you will be pleased to identify yourself to Mr. Southard there."
 The author of this telegram, which was delivered on the morning of Lucinda's fifth day in Chicago, was punctual to the minute of his appointment; otherwise he would hardly have been the recalcitrant gentleman of the frock-coat school that he was.
 Notwithstanding that Harford Willis was pledged to a code of morals and manners vinted in the early eighteen-eighties, and so implacably antagonistic to the general trend of present-day thought on the divorce question, his great affection for Lucinda predisposed him to allow that the course she had taken with Bellamy had left open to her.
 "My dear Lucinda," Willis intoned deliberately, "I must say you seem to be bearing up remarkably well, all things considered, re-mark-ably well."
 "I've stopped howling and drumming the floor with my heels," Lucinda admitted—"if that's what you mean. When I found it didn't do any good, I gave it up, and I've felt more cheerful ever since."
 "Cheerful!" Willis repeated in a sepulchral voice.
 "More like an average human being who's been horribly hurt but who can't see why life should be counted a total loss for all that."
 "You don't think it would be worth while," Willis suggested as one in duty bound, "to forgive Bellamy, give him another chance?"
 "I don't know that I've got anything to forgive him, Mr. Willis. Why should I forgive him for be-

ing true to himself? It's myself I can't forgive, because I was silly enough to let him go on a long as I did, making me a laughing stock . . . Besides, I'm not so sure it's good for us to be forgiven our sins; we're all such vain creatures, we're too apt to take forgiveness as a license to misbehave still more . . . Don't you see?"
 (Continued in Next Issue)

STOPS WOMENS PAINS QUICKLY
 No Woman Need Suffer With Periodical Pains and Cramps Anymore
NEW HOME REMEDY STOPS MISERY QUICK
 No girl or woman can be strong well and good looking if she suffers with cramps and pains each month during menstruation period. Here is an easy to take, home remedy that is guaranteed. Buy a bottle of Adams' Wonder Capsules; take 3 doses (6 capsules) just before or as soon as pains and flow starts. If all signs of pains and misery fail to disappear—return balance of the bottle and get your money back. Thousands of women use Adams' Wonder Capsules. They are harmless—cost very little and do the work quick. Crane's Drug Store, Fairmont.

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 ---The Buying Center
 ---The Geographical Center
 ---The Very Heart of Business Activities of Northern West Virginia
May 25 -- 26 -- 27

TRADE EXPANSION

THREE BIG DAYS **DAYS** **100,000 PEOPLE INVITED**

---Thursday, May 25th
 Will Be City-Wide Dollar Day

---Friday, May 26th
 Will Be City-Wide Old Fashioned Bargain Day

Saturday, May 27th
 Will Be Automobile Prize Day

VISITORS and Fairmont's own people will find Trade Expansion Days a wonderful opportunity to stock up on groceries, dry goods, wearing apparel, shoes, drugs, automobiles and accessories, building materials, furniture, house furnishings, hardware, candies, fruits, meats, jewelry, tailoring, dye and cleaning service, books, notions, sundries, baked goods, mechanical equipment—for it will be three arousing days of money-savings throughout greater Fairmont. Every business firm, every individual in Fairmont, extends to visitors a sincere welcome that will be lasting.

Boys' Wash Suits
 One and two piece wash suits and rompers, assorted colors and combinations **98c**

Men's Dress Shirts
 With or without collar, plain and striped patterns. All sizes **98c**

Men's Union Suits
 White or ecru knit union suits, also nainsook athletic union suits **98c**

Bleached or Unbleached Muslin
 Yard wide good heavy quality; Your choice; 10 yards for **98c**

Yard Wide Percales
 Light and gray grounds, assorted patterns; choice this sale 5 yards for **98c**

Boys' Shirts
 Of fine percales in assorted stripes and colors, collar attached, pocket, etc. **98c**

Women's Silk Hose
 Pure silk boot hose, tisle garter tops and sole. Black, brown, gray, covert, etc. Choice **98c**

Women's Corsets
 Thompson's Glove-Fitting medium bust coutil corsets; all sizes **98c**

Girls' Middies
 All white with red or blue collars, cuffs and pockets. All sizes **98c**

Girls' Dresses
 Of fine percales and gingham; very newest styles. Choice this sale **98c**

Oil Cloth
 3 1/2 inch wide oil cloth light and dark patterns; choice this sale, 3 yards for **98c**

Women's Cuffs and Collar Sets
 Nicely made of lace, laron, gingham, white colors; combinations, choice, set **98c**

Infant's Dresses
 Made of fine quality, white laron, embroidery trimmed, assorted styles **98c**

Men's "Sealpax" Union Suits
 Of white check nainsook, athletic style, each guaranteed in dustproof sealed package.... **98c**

Women's Silk Gloves
 Of fine Milanese silk; have 2-clasp fastening; black, white, gray, covert, pair **98c**

Aluminum Ware
 Choice 10 and 14 qt. dish pans; Self Basting Roasters; 10 quart Preserving Kettles; 6 quart Convex Pot **98c**

"Knight Templars" and "Shriners" WELCOME!

Golden's Mid-Week Sales!

See What **49c** Will Buy Here

Boys' Chambray Shirts
 Regulation style of nice fast color blue chambray. All sizes **49c**

Boys' and Children's Union Suits
 White or ecru knit union suits. Also nainsook, athletic. Sizes 24 to 34 **49c**

Men's Dress Socks
 Of fine cotton lisle, in black, brown, gray, blue; Choice 5 pairs for **49c**

Men's Silk Socks
 Men's pure silk half hose, in black, cordovan and navy. Choice pair **49c**

Men's Underwear
 Men's knit shirts or drawers, white ecru or mottled gray. Per garment **49c**

Men's Silk Ties
 Knit or brocaded silk ties, handsome patterns and colors. Choice **49c**

Women's Lisle Hose
 Fine cotton lisle stockings in black and brown. Choice this sale, 2 pairs for **49c**

Women's Muslin Gowns and Chemise
 In white or pink, lace or embroidery trimmed. Choice of this sale **49c**

Women's Bloomers and Underskirts
 Muslin underskirts, lace or embroidery trimmed and pink or white crepe bloomers. Choice **49c**

Women's Union Suits
 White knit gauze union suits, V-neck or strap shoulders; all sizes. Choice **49c**

Boys' Overalls
 Of blue denim striped in white; regulation style, all sizes. Choice **49c**

Children's Stockings
 Fine or heavy rib in black only, good and strong. Choice 4 pairs for **49c**

Parlor Brooms
 Fine quality 5 string parlor broom good and strong. Choice this sale **49c**

Clymer's Preserves
 Regular pint jar, peach and pineapple flavors. Choice this sale, 2 jars for **49c**

Battleship Peanut Butter
 Full pint jar size, 30c is the regular price everywhere. Choice this sale, 2 jars for **49c**

Van Camp's Tomato Soup
 Medium size can, 10c is the regular price everywhere. Choice this sale, 6 cans for **49c**

Women's and Misses' Dresses, Coats
 Greatly Reduced in This Sale!
\$10 and \$20
 Were to 22.50 Were to 39.50

Women's Summer Frocks \$6
 Values to \$10
 Third Floor

Summer Hats \$5
 Values to \$8.00
 Third Floor

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 Wonderful New Arrivals
MEN'S and YOUNG MEN'S SPRING SUITS
 Values up to **\$19.50** up to \$30.00
 New happy Suits—the kind young Fairmonters like to wear. Suits that have all the style features of higher priced garments without lessening the quality. Plain styles, belted styles for all. Grays, greens, browns, checks, stripes, Herringbone effects. An interesting variety indeed.
 Second Floor

Men's Straw Hats \$1.95 up
 Now is the time to get your Straw—-and here's the right place to get it! We have 'em in all shapes, braids and colors, white or tan—fine or rough braids. All very low in price indeed!
 Second Floor

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