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# Two Husbands Wanted by Hazel Deyo Batchelor



## SYNOPSIS

Polly Long, a mannequin in the establishment of Madame Therese, falls in love with Ralph Haliday, whose wife Lola has drifted away from him. Polly is led to believe that Lola is Ralph's sister and begins to dream romantic dreams. But when Mrs. Long meets Ralph and he suggests that they come to New York to live and that Lola go on the stage where she can make more money, Mrs. Long is worried.

## CHAPTER V.

### THE NEW HOME.

In the end it was Polly who settled things.

The little mother had nothing to say.

And so, with the exception of the bonds that were drawing interest for a rainy day, she and Polly moved into an apartment near the theatres, a nice three-room apartment near enough the Harvard Club to make things comfortable for Ralph.

As Polly argued, what difference did it make whether they lived in New York or New Jersey, provided their rent was the same. Of course, it wasn't the same, but neither Mrs. Long nor Polly knew that Ralph was making up the difference.

Polly had persuaded her mother to sell most of the furniture, even to the four-poster bed. The new apartment was furnished, and the Longs had a two-year sub-lease because the owner was travelling.

In two years anything can happen, thought Polly, Ralph's face dancing tantalizingly before her eyes. And it did happen. Plenty happened. Lola saw to that!

But Polly was crazy about the new place, and even the little mother smiled shyly at the big studio living room, the two little bedrooms, the modern kitchenette, and the shining bath with its sunken tub and tiled walls.

The place was furnished simply. A few good prints were on the walls and a davenport was placed before an open fireplace. There were books, too, and a small piano that awakened Mrs. Long's interest. She wondered if she still remembered the Maiden's Prayer and resolved to try it some time when Polly was not at home. The bedrooms had each a twin bed, dressing table with triple mirrors and comfortable chair.

"No more sleeping on couches," thought Polly. At last she had a room to herself!

Madame Therese gave her a week to get settled. Annette, Fay and Juliet shrugged when she told them the news. But Polly did not leave her new address with Madame. Ralph didn't wish it.

During the time that she was getting settled, Lola came in to Madame Therese to look at evening frocks. A new mannequin, Marcia, had taken Polly's place.

"Where is the girl in gray?" Lola

asked suspiciously.

Therese laughed good-naturedly. "Paulette is on vacation now."

Lola gave a sigh of relief and Ralph inwardly chuckled.

Polly was just two blocks from Madame's establishment and his money was helping to pay the rent.

Therese spoke.

"Madame, she never forget the girl in gray."

"I didn't like her type."

"So pure and innocent," returned Madame, her hands raised, "Paulette never sees the street on which she walks she always see the stars and moon."

"Very pretty, if true," Lola said dryly.

But her suspicions were allayed. If Paulette were merely on vacation she would be back soon and Lola would see her. And Polly did return, looking rested and happy and ready to wear Palm Beach clothes on her slim young figure. It was all very strange.

Bright sweaters and pleated silk skirts!

Bathing suits!

Polly did not look at Ralph or did he look at her, and Lola consented to look at a model of the bathing suit Polly was wearing. Madame Therese was delighted because it did not necessitate bringing Polly and Lola together. So far, all was well.

One night in late November, Polly and Ralph and Mrs. Long were comfortably ensconced before an open wood fire. Steam radiators were sizzling luxuriously. One lamp was burning.

There was an atmosphere of peace and security about the place, an atmosphere it didn't deserve.

Polly, seated on a small footstool at her mother's feet, suddenly projected a sentence into the lazy room.

"How is your sister?"

"She's well."

"She bought a bathing suit from me."

"I know she did."

"She buys so many pretty things," Polly sighed.

"She does," Ralph said grimly.

The fire leaped and burned as it caught the log. A silence filled the big shadowy room. Mrs. Long was almost asleep.

"Lola is going to Palm Beach in December with the family," Ralph remarked.

"And you?"

"I stay here, of course, foolish baby. Living at the club and going to the office."

Mrs. Long stirred. Ralph's sister was going to Florida with Ralph's family. Of course, that gave them plenty of time to get acquainted with Ralph, and in the spring when Ralph's sister returned there would probably be an engagement.

Mrs. Long wouldn't press things, not for the present. She had gone too far to draw back now. Things were made so comfortable for her. Maid ser-

vice with the apartment, and how much nicer for Polly to be so near the place where she had found work.

In her warm coat, Mrs. Long had often walked past the glittering front of Madame Therese's fashion establishment. It gave her a sense of security to know where Polly was spending her time.

But she never stopped. And if she had, she would have seen nothing but heavy velvet draperies and gold lettering. She would be back long before any one left the place of fashion.

Then she and Polly and Ralph would go to a quiet restaurant for dinner, or she and Polly would go alone, because there was always plenty of money. Sometimes when Ralph was not spending the evening with them, they would stay in and Mrs. Long would plan and cook a dinner. It was fun eating before the balze of the open fire and it was fun leaving the dishes for the maid who came in the morning.

It was on one of these evenings that Annette followed Polly home, and after a discreet wait went up in the elevator.

Annette of the feverish desires had tracked Polly. She was triumphant as she rang the bell.

Monday—Annette.

Doctor has a set of figures which he thinks goes to prove that modern women live longer than men. Perhaps they have discovered the underlying principle of the slogan, save the surface and you save all.

## CARRIED WIFE TO BED

Suffered So She Could Not Walk. Restored to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Minesing, Ontario.—"I am a practical nurse and I recommend Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to suffering women. For three months I was almost helpless and could not sit at the table long enough to drink a cup of tea. Many a time my husband carried me to bed, I would be so weak. Then he read in the paper of a woman suffering as I did who got better after taking the Vegetable Compound, so he went and got it for me. When I had taken three bottles I was just like a new woman and have had splendid health ever since. When I feel any bearing-down pains I always take it; sometimes a half bottle or whatever I need. It is my only medicine and I have told many a one about it. Any one wanting to know more about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, I will gladly write to her. I do all I can to recommend it for I feel I owe my life and strength to it."—Mrs. NEAL BOWSER, R. R. 1, Minesing, Ontario.

Do you feel broken-down, nervous, and weak sometimes? Do you have this horrid feeling of fear which sometimes comes to women when they are not well? Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is excellent to take at such a time. It always helps, and if taken regularly and persistently will relieve this condition.

## BOXER ECLIPSES NEW CARDINAL

Paris, Jan. 20—Paris is awaking to the importance of boxers. When Archbishop Rouleau of Quebec arrived on his way to Rome to get his Cardinal's hat, one of his fellow passengers was "Kid" Francis, who was reported by the French newspapers as having come here "for a little repose" before his next fight.

The "Kid" got first position in the stories of prominent arrivals, while the Archbishop "also arrived."

## YOU LOVED THE ROSES

You loved the roses that had caught their birth  
From dewy sunshine, redolent of spring;

When fires of youth and life sprung from the earth,  
And God breathed love into each pulsing thing.

You love them yet, I know, where'er you be

Perhaps a lovelier rosebud smiles on you;

I only know they pine and fade for thee—

Old days have happier memories than the new.

Only a little while till all the flowers

Broken and chilled are crushed against your breast;

Never again to charm their dainty bows,

You love them more within your better rest.

—DUDLEY RUSHTON in Philadelphia Inquirer.

## OLD FOLKS NEED A MILD BOWEL TONIC

Constipation Best Overcome by the Occasional Use of Dr. Hamilton's Pills.

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Mrs. S. Petuh, Fisher Home, Alta., writes:—"I was troubled with boils and had eleven of them on my arm at one time."

"I tried all kinds of medicine, but got no relief."

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# BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

and have never been troubled since."

B.B.B. banishes boils and all other blood disorders; manufactured only by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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