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### The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

Author of "The Crimson Blind," "The Corner House," etc.

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(Continued.)

"Did you believe her guilty?" Lance asked.

"Ah, there you puzzle me," Bert replied. "Upon my word, I don't know. Opinion was so equally divided; in each case the jury was balanced for and against. Sometimes I thought the woman was guilty, and sometimes I thought she was innocent. Of course, it was that extraordinary alibi which saved her life. There was no getting away from it, for the testimony in the woman's favor was given by people who were total strangers to her. On the other hand, all the hold servants came forward after the old and gave their testimony, and a very bad name, indeed. On their testimony she would have been executed, without a doubt. If only half they said was true, the Countess Flavia was a fiend."

"Did no servant testify in her favor?" Lance asked.

"Well, one. And he was a manservant who had accompanied the Countess from her own home. According to his account, his mistress was a perfect angel, and the Count was no more nor less than a tyrant to humanity. This testimony passed for very little, seeing that Count Flavia's neighbors and tenants came forward and spoke of him as a man of singular charm and virtue."

"I have heard that," Lance said thoughtfully. "You see, Lord Ravenspur, my uncle, was a great friend of the Count. I understand that he never met the Countess, though he had an interview with the Count not long before his death. According to what Lord Ravenspur says, at that time the Count walked in fear of his life. He was very fearful lest his wife should try to destroy him. And now you tell me that the Countess Flavia was no less than the wife of my friend Delahay. I don't know what to think about it. I presume that Inspector Dallas will take steps to assure himself that Delahay is the woman you take her to be."

"Well, yes," Dallas said grimly. "I don't see how the matter can rest here. We know perfectly well that Mrs. Delahay was away from her hotel for upwards of two hours on the night of her husband's death. It has been proved that she was seen in his company. And that she was not outside her bedroom. One doesn't like to come to conclusions; they are fatal things to form in our profession. But it seems to me that there is one person who could clear up this mystery, and she happens to be the dead man's wife."

"Lance had nothing to say in objection to this. Still, at the same time, there was a haunting doubt in the back of his mind that circumstances were shaping themselves against Maria Delahay apart from any fault of her own."

"You haven't enough to justify an immediate arrest, I suppose?" he asked. "You see what I mean?"

"Oh, I see perfectly well what you mean, sir," Inspector Dallas replied. "There is nothing to gain by such a course. It is impossible for the woman to get away. Indeed, we should take immediate steps to prevent her leaving the country. If she is the guilty party, she will be much more use to us as a free woman than she would be as a suspected criminal under lock and key. But, unless I am mistaken, Mr. Lance, you came here to tell me something."

"I had clean forgotten all about it," Lance exclaimed. "But as it is getting late now, if you don't mind I will leave it till the morning. It is a long story."

A few moments later and Lance was retracing his steps in the direction of the Grand Hotel. He was going to do wrong; he was going to do something which, sooner or later, might land him in serious trouble, but that did not deter him for a moment. In the hall of the hotel he scribbled a hasty note, and sent it up to Mrs. Delahay. A message came down in a moment or two to say that Mrs. Delahay would be pleased to see Mr. Lance.

He found her waiting in the sitting-room, just as cold and pale and impassive as before.

"You have something very important?" she asked.

"Indeed, I have," Lance exclaimed. "I want you to believe that I am actuated entirely by the friendliest motives, and if I speak plainly you will understand that I am not wanting in feeling. I have been with Inspector Dallas tonight and he introduced me to an Italian detective whose name is Bert. The latter assures me that his name is quite familiar to you."

"He is quite mistaken," Mrs. Delahay said in her cold, even voice. "I don't know anybody of that name. As to a policeman, I never had the honor of speaking to one in my life."

"You are quite certain of that?"

"Absolutely. If it were true, what should I have to gain by denying it? If you have anything to say to me, it will be far better to speak quite plainly."

The woman spoke quietly enough. It was impossible to believe that she was wilfully deceiving her questioner.

"Very well, then," Lance said, "I may as well tell you that this man Bert is the detective who had the Flavia case in hand. You will remember, of course, what an extraordinary sensation that drama caused in Italy many years ago."

"Did it?" Mrs. Delahay said indifferently. "I never had the slightest interest in that kind of thing. So far as this particular case is concerned, I never heard of it before."

Lance could only stare in astonishment. She was speaking and acting now just as, according to Bert, the Countess Flavia had behaved before and during the trial. Was she the sport of circumstance, or was she the woman she denied herself to be?

#### CHAPTER XVII

"That is very strange," Lance murmured. "I am told that the trial in question was the talk of Europe for two or three years. I believe the papers were full of it at the time. And yet you don't seem to have heard of it. Isn't the name of Flavia familiar to you at all? It is not a common name."

As Lance spoke he saw a swift and subtle change pass over the face of his companion. A flame of color stained either cheek; then it was gone, leaving her still more ghastly white than before.

"I have not told you the truth," the woman said; "but in twenty years, one forgets even the keenest of sorrows. Now I come to think of it, the name of Flavia reminds me of one of the most unhappy experiences in my existence. There was a certain Count Flavia whose estates I joined those of my father. For some generations there had been a deep and bitter feud existing between the Flavias and the Descartis. The head of the Flavias was a very old man, who had two sons. Not to make a long story of it, the young people met, and fell in love with each other; the young people on one side being my sister and myself. The intrigue was found out, of course, and for the next ten years I was practically a prisoner in my father's house. He had a gloomy old fortress somewhere up country, and there I was detained. I might have been there still had my parents lived."

"And your sister?" Lance asked.

"What of her?"

Again the woman hesitated. Again the look of pain and suffering swept like a wave across her face.

"They told me my sister was dead," she murmured. "I had to take their word for it."

"And you believed it? You believe it still? I hope you will pardon me for my persistent questions, but it is quite necessary that I should put them. Do you feel quite convinced?"

"Once more Mrs. Delahay hesitated. Once more she seemed to shrink as if in physical pain.

"How can I know? How can I tell?" she asked. "Did I not say that I had been a prisoner all those years? This would account for the fact that I know nothing about the Flavia tragedy. Are you going to tell me that it is one and the same family to whom my sister and myself were attached?"

"Indeed, I do," Lance went on. "Your Count Flavia had two sons. When he died his elder son came into the title and estates. That was the man who was afterwards poisoned by his wife; at least, a great many people think so. And his wife's name was Carlotta. Her surname was Descartis. My dear Mrs. Delahay, it is impossible to believe that this is a coincidence."

(To be continued.)

Mrs. Robert MacKay and Miss Caroline MacKay, of Montreal, are coming this month to their summer residence in St. Andrews.

### Orange Juice and Health For Stomach and Skin

Few of us realize what an important part the skin plays in keeping us well or making us ill.

The millions of tiny glands, or pores, are intended to rid the system of waste matter, which the blood brings to the skin. It is a well-known medical fact that the healthy skin carries off more Urea or waste matter than the kidneys. Just think how much poison remains in the system when there is any skin trouble.

The skin and stomach are intimately associated. Find a person with a dry, harsh skin and you will find one who suffers with indigestion or constipation, and both, usually.

Both may be relieved by a judicious use of orange juice. Both can be cured by taking the juice of an orange every morning before breakfast, and taking "Fruit-a-tives" at night. "Fruit-a-tives" are fruit juices in tablet form. The fresh juices of oranges, apples, figs and prunes are separated in such a way that the medicinal action is intensified.

Orange juice alone will not cure Skin, Stomach or Bowel troubles. But when taken in connection with "Fruit-a-tives," a positive cure results. "Fruit-a-tives" may be obtained at all dealers or will be sent on receipt of price—50c a box—6 for \$2.50. "Fruit-a-tives" Limited, Ottawa.

### GOUIN CALLS NAMES TO HENRI BOURASSA

Premier of Quebec Says His Opponent is a Political Weathercock Facing Every Breeze.

Montreal, June 3.—Chief interest in the political campaign centres in St. James division, where Premier Gouin has for his opponent Henri Bourassa.

In a speech tonight which was attended by 2,500 electors, Premier Gouin referred to his opponent as a political weathercock facing every breeze. The gathering was composed almost exclusively of adults, who gave the speaker a good hearing, manifesting more interest in what was said than in ostentatious enthusiasm.

At the outset the premier compared the stability of the progressive policy of his government with the uncertain and changing attitude of the political weathercock who was opposing him. Premier Gouin, in outlining his policy, said he adhered to the same principles which he professed eleven years ago when he entered the legislature. It was different, however, with Mr. Bourassa who, after running through the political gamut, was neither Liberal, Conservative, nor merely a noisy opportunist with no other platform than his own personal glorification. His defeat at Bellechase had not checked his ambition and in order to justify his reappearance in the political arena he now posed as the defender of the rights of French Canadians and the savior of the province risen from the dead for the good cause.

The castigation of the ex-deputy from Labelle was delivered straight from the shoulder and met with favor from the big turnout of the friends of the premier. Reports from all over the province show a revived interest in the political issues of the day and it is generally conceded the Conservatives will make a better showing than at the last elections, when but a handful were returned.

### BIG TROUT CAUGHT IN LILY LAKE LAST NIGHT

Frank Fairweather Gets One Weighing a Pound and Three-quarters.

If any one ever had doubts as to the size of the trout in Lily Lake they must be dispelled when they hear of the achievement of Frank Fairweather last night. It would have been hard to choose a more unfavorable night for fly fishing, and yet Mr. Fairweather caught a handsome trout which weighed one pound and three-quarters. This is the record so far. The largest trout taken previously weighed just one pound and five ounces.

Mr. Fairweather was accompanied by his wife and they were on the water just one hour.

If one feels dull and spiritless, in the spring or early summer, they call it "Spring Fever." But there is no fever—usually, it is the after effect of our winter habits. The nerves are mostly at fault. Tired, worn-out nerves leave us languid, lifeless, and without spirit or ambition. A few doses of Dr. Shoop's Restorative will absolutely and quickly change all of these depressing symptoms. The Restorative of course won't bring you back to full health in a day or two, but it will do enough in 48 hours to satisfy you that the remedy is reaching that "dead spot." Druggists everywhere are advising its use. It gives more vim and more spirit to the spoonful than any other known nerve or constitutional tonic. It sharpens a failing appetite, aids digestion, frees sluggish livers and kidneys, and in his weakened condition he was unable to overcome the attack. His Newfoundland operations probably made him best known. He was born in Scotland 26 years ago.

### MARY EMERSON COMING

Samuel Lewis, business manager of the Mary Emerson Company is in the city arranging for the appearance of the company in the Opera House for the week of June 15th. Miss Emerson who has received much praise from American critics will be seen in two plays, "His Majesty and The Maid" and "Will O' The Wisp."

### SIR ROBT. G. REID, THE NEWFOUNDLAND MAGNATE, DEAD

Montreal, June 3.—The death took place at an early hour this morning of Sir Robert Gillespie Reid, one of Canada's wealthiest citizens, and a man who has been ranked with Stratford, Mount Stephen, Angus, McIntyre and others famous in the work of construction which was essential to the present progress of the country's commerce. Sir Reid had not been in good health for some time past, being a great sufferer from hemiplegia, but it was generally known that for the past few days his condition had been critical. He contracted pneumonia, and in his weakened condition he was unable to overcome the attack. His Newfoundland operations probably made him best known. He was born in Scotland 26 years ago.

J. Reid Clarkson, manager of the Edward Partington Pulp & Paper Co., and son, George, will sail from Montreal on Friday for England and the continent.

### Fashion Hint for Times Readers



COSTUME OF THE ATHLETIC GIRL. A tailored serge or mohair skirt, neatly stitched and of ankle length, makes an ideal accompaniment for the comfortable gingham shirtwaist of rough pongee. This waist fits smoothly and plainly over the shoulders, without plaits, and closes with bone buttons. The conventional shirt sleeves are gathered into the armholes, and the wide wrists are finished with pointed turned-back cuffs. There is a soft turned-over collar and a dark silk Ascot tie, and on the left breast a convenient handkerchief pocket. Tan, taupe and dark blue are excellent golfing costume colors.

### PLAYS AND PLAYERS

#### KIRK BROWN'S FAREWELL ENGAGEMENT TONIGHT

Tonight Kirk Brown will open his farewell engagement of his season at the Opera House with a great scenic production of "The Sign of the Cross." As this masterpiece of Wilson Barrett's succeeded in drawing the largest audiences of the recent engagement of Mr. Brown there will be the usual large first night audience on hand which has always assembled to welcome this popular young actor and his company.

While it can be admitted that a Friday matinee is an unusual event for the St. John Opera House, it can also be admitted that patrons of the play house in this city have always welcomed a novelty in scenic productions, and it will be proven that Mr. Brown's performance of "East Lynne" is a novelty in that it is a great play for one reason, and that Mr. Brown has a separate and distinct scenic production of the play, making it a novelty as all of his scenic productions thus far have had the stamp of approval of the entire city.

The closing performance of "The Christian" Saturday night will be another event as it is the last time Mr. Brown will present the play in St. John. This will also be the "jubilee night," as it celebrates the closing of Mr. Brown's long and prosperous season. After the performance Saturday night various members of the company including the star himself, will appear before the curtain and deliver a farewell address.

#### NEW YORK SONG HIT AT NICKEL TODAY

"Take Me Out To The Ball Game," is the most contagious thing in popular songs the great city of New York has heard in many years, and everybody is singing or whistling it. At the baseball grounds, beach-herds rattle the opposing team with it, and livery-guards grind it out by the hour. Today at the Nickel, Miss Wren will give it a spirited rendering and tomorrow the boys will have it down "pat." Mr. Cairns is to be heard in the strongly emotional ballad, "Dream On Dear Heart, Dream On." The new show of pictures went admirably last night and large crowds saw it. The Bride's Dream was a most surprising novelty and Oscar's Elongement put everybody in fits of laughter. The Little Chimney Sweep was both pathetic and dramatic.

#### DOLLY THE CIRCUS QUEEN AT THE PRINCESS.

The same clean edifying and amusing offerings which have given the Princess Theatre its excellent reputation still continue to be presented. The motion picture are up-to-date, and the leading film Dolly the Circus Queen is something entirely different from any that have ever been produced. It lifts the veil that surrounds circus life and gives us a view of the hardships and trials of those who follow this calling. A Good Thief, is the name another picture and it is safe to say that it is one of the best ever put on the road. The last picture on the bill is a bright, clever bit of comedy, entitled How Do You Like Our Drawing Room? The new singer, Mr. A. Munroe Dorr, continues to draw large audiences at every show, those who have not yet heard this famous singer should not miss the opportunity now offered. Miss Evelyn Ellis is heard to excellent advantage in her new song, "Yankee Rose." This varied and interesting programme drew crowded houses to the Princess yesterday afternoon and evening. Tonight they will give \$5 in gold to the holder of the lucky ticket. Drawing will take place at 8 o'clock. Matinee every afternoon at 2:15 for ladies and children.

#### DEVIL'S AUCTION NEXT WEEK

Manager Charles H. Yale says that "Devil's Auction" is the best paying piece of theatrical property in America, and gives the following reasons to substantiate the claim.

First, it has been on the road continuously for twenty-five seasons.

Second, it has always pleased its many thousands of patrons throughout the country.

Third, it has always been kept up to the times with novelties and innovations, making it each season a new performance, simply retaining the old name as a trademark.

Fourth, it has never presented anything to offend and cater to the ladies and children.

Fifth, the theatre going public are always sure of enjoying a pleasant evening's entertainment and seeing what the management advertises.

The one reason why everybody should see it this year is that the 26th edition of the "Devil's Auction" is new in its entirety.

Manager Anderson of the Opera House gives his personal guarantee that the "Devil's Auction" is one of if not the best attraction he has booked for this season.

Piles are easily and quickly checked with Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment. To prove it I will mail a small trial box as a convincing test. Simply address Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. I surely would not send it free unless I was certain that Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment would stand the test. Remember it is made expressly and alone for swollen, painful, bleeding or itching piles, either external or internal. Large jar 50c. Sold by all druggists.

#### THOMAS JEFFERSON

Thomas Jefferson closed his engagement in Rip Van Winkle at the Opera House last night playing to a large audience. As on Tuesday evening the production was a pronounced success.

R. M. Smith left last evening for Boston where his daughter, Miss Ellen Barry Smith, who is returning after a successful year of study at the Baltimore Conservatory of Music, will meet him.

#### Old Coughs

Old coughs, desperate coughs, rasping coughs, extremely perilous coughs, coughs that shake the whole body. It takes a strong medicine, a doctor's medicine, to master such coughs. A great many people rely on Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

### The Times Daily Puzzle Picture



Robinson Crusoe leaves home and goes to sea. (Defoe). Find a sailor. ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S. Left side down, at right arm.

### MANY HAPPY JUNE BRIDES

Calais, June 4.—William A. McConvey of St. Stephen and Miss Addie May Kerr, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kerr, were united in marriage on Wednesday evening, the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride's parents by Rev. R. L. Sloggett, rector of St. Anne's Episcopal church in the presence of the immediate relatives of the bride and groom. The bridesmaid was Miss Nettie Erves of Gagetown, N. B., and Robert Kerr, brother of the bride was best man. Mr. and Mrs. McConvey will make their home in St. Stephen and have the best wishes of a host of friends on both sides of the river for a long and happy wedded life. The bride was the recipient of many useful and beautiful presents.

St. Stephen, N. B., June 3.—The ceremony was performed by Rev. T. J. Deinstadt, of Fairville, uncle of the bride, assisted by Rev. George M. Young, pastor of the Methodist church here. The drawing room looked very pretty with roses and smilax, palms and ferns tastefully arranged. Beneath a beautiful bell, fashioned with white carnations and lilies of the valley, suspended from the chandelier of this room, assembled the bridal party.

The ribbon bearers, Ruth Young and Marion White, preceded the bride who entered the drawing room on the arm of her father. Miss Deinstadt, who is a beautiful brunette, looked very charming in a gown of princess lace, white chiffon and tulle, wearing a veil of tulle fastened to her hair with sprays of lily of the valley and carrying a shower bouquet of bride roses. The maid of honor was Miss Grace Deinstadt, sister of the bride. She was beautifully gowned in a pretty dress of white satin, feebly marquisette over white tulle and carried a bouquet of pink roses.

The ceremony was followed by a reception in a pretty house of white satin, feebly marquisette over white tulle and carried a bouquet of pink roses. The drawing rooms were tastefully decorated for the occasion with ferns and cut flowers. The marriage knot was tied under a floral bell suspended from the centre of the room. The wedding march was played by Arthur Godsoe.

The bride was becomingly attired in a gown of silk lace and carried a shower bouquet of carnations and roses. The maid of honor wore a gown of white net and carried a bouquet of pink carnations. The bridesmaid, who wore a dress of gray, carried a chain and the maid of honor a crescent of pearls.

Among the handsome presents received were some gifts from Sweden, the former home of the groom, and among the guests were Mrs. Amos Carter of Platon, Mrs. Angus Steadman, Mrs. Frank Gross, Mr. Clarence Grace, and Miss Daisy McLean of Moncton.

St. Stephen's church was the scene of a brilliant wedding today when Miss Nellie D. Taunton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Taunton, and Mr. W. B. Williams, were married by Rev. E. P. Dean Crawford, of All Saints Cathedral, assisted by Rev. K. C. Hind, priest in charge of St. Stephen's.

St. Stephen, June 3.—The home of Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson, Porter street, was the scene of an interesting event this afternoon at three o'clock, when Miss Fannie Leiper, sister of Mrs. Wilson, was united in marriage to Rev. Wm. J. Kirby of Gagetown, Queens County.

The bride looked charming in gray voile over blue silk. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. M. Young, pastor of the Methodist church in the presence of the relatives and immediate friends.

The bride was the recipient of many useful and beautiful gifts. The travelling suit of the bride was brown Venetian cloth with hat to match.

The happy couple left by the C.P.R. evening train for Montreal, Saratoga Springs, Boston and other American cities.

St. Stephen, June 3.—At 7:15 o'clock this morning, in the Presbyterian church, Miss Sarah Irvine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Irvine, Water street, became the bride of Livingston Strange, second son of the late Joseph Strange. The ceremony was performed by Rev. L. B. Gib son, pastor of the church, in the presence of a large number of friends. The bride was beautifully attired in a travelling suit of blue broadcloth with hat to match of blue broadcloth with hat to match of blue broadcloth with hat to match.

The home of Isaiah Steeves, Robinson street, was the scene of an interesting event this evening when his daughter Grace Annie was married to Charles Chester Ray, in D. F. Hoar's employ. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. Gratton Dockrell in the presence of relatives and immediate friends. The bride was attired in Copenhagen blue and was the recipient of many handsome presents.