



By Harold Titus

"You can't understand, perhaps. Sometimes I can't understand myself. Always I've wanted to be loved by... by you, Ben Elliott! It's given me the only true happiness I've ever had."



"I Can't Stand It, Ben!"

up to banish this cloud... No, don't kiss me again! I can't stand it, I tell you! I can't stand it, Ben!"

Next day he declared that he felt fit to drive back to camp and for an hour argued with Dawn, trying to win her promise that he might come again, but she begged him to stay away for a time, at least.

Elliott did not go at once to the stable where his team awaited him. He entered the court house and went over the meager records of the case, but little that was new rewarded his search.

CHAPTER XIV

Able told Dawn of Ben's activity, watching her face narrowly because he understood the obstacle that was between these two. He saw hope come, followed by misgiving and trouble.

ried into the past and attempted to make it give up truth. At noon, on the edge of a swamp, she sought shelter from the fitful wind, built a small fire and ate the lunch she carried.

"Where's Ben at?" he asked Martin. "I don't know. Miss McManus, here, was just asking."

"I didn't mean to pry... Probably he's gone to meet you, though. This is a note from you."

"Don't you see?" Martin cried and his voice was thick. "Dawn wrote it, all right. But he's sent it to Ben... It's a decoy! Tim, the lad's on his way to the lodge alone and Brandon's planned it!"

"No need for more words, then! On went Martin's jacket. From a corner he snatched snowshoes and a pair for Tim."

The distance was a good five miles, however, and part of the going was in soft footing. So it was nearly two hours after his start that he came in sight of the building on the high bank of the Mad Woman.

He had crossed the threshold, peering into the gloom, a sudden and cold misgiving sweeping him. "Turn back; withdraw!" a small voice warned but before he could gather himself a blow struck him and he went down under a heavy, living weight.

blows were weak, ineffective. A hand clutched at his throat and he tore at it with all his strength. The fingers shut down on the windpipe and he writhed under that agony, summoning all his courage, all his will to break free, to outlast that strangling pressure.

That thought burned away the haze which enveloped him and he started to throw himself over, to rise, to be up and fighting. But he found that he was unable to move.

His hands were stretched out above his head; a harsh bond held each wrist helpless. He tried to kick and failed. His feet were locked together and held there as by a great weight.

"So!" he ranted and laughed. "So you fell for it! So you followed your blissed-down, eh?" He went off into a tantrum of crazy laughter.

"He worked!" Brandon cried. "G—d, how it worked! 'Dawn' you called like a fool, standing outside there. 'Dawn'... And then stepped into my trap, eh?"

Brandon had schemed competently, no detail which would implicate him seemed to have been overlooked. Still, fear did not manifest itself in Elliott's heart; only contempt was there for a man so merciless. Contempt and a stout determination to stall for time.

"You're smart, Brandon," he said. "I'll admit that. The plan's so good I'm surprised that you overlooked a bit."

"What if you mean, a bet?" "A little thing. A thing almost anybody might overlook. But it's bound to come to light if I don't show up, and no murder charge is as good as another. I'm talking about a letter Don Stuart wrote me just before he died."

"Lies can't hurt me, you fool!" Brandon cried but his teeth rattled. "Plotting and scheming, were you, to drag that old case up and try to turn it against me? And basing it all on the death-bed ravings of—"

"But McManus isn't dead!" Ben cried, crowding all the conviction and triumph he could summon into his tone, playing his hunch to the utmost. "He's alive and we've located him"—lying himself, now, in an attempt to beat the truth from Brandon.

"I wasn't here... I wasn't here... Wasn't here, I tell you... And McManus won't dare come back, with a warrant waiting... He won't dare... won't dare..."

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE On Monday, May 27th, 1935, at eleven o'clock A. M., at the court house door in the town of Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina, I will sell to the highest bidder...

Being lot No. 7 of what is known as the Grimbark Park Addition, which said map, plat and subdivision is duly recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Haywood County, N. C., in Map Book "B," Index "G,"...

Beginning at a stake standing in the center of the Southern Railway track, corner to lots No. 6 and 7 of Block 4, as aforesaid, and runs thence N. 13° 15' E. 199 feet to a stake in the margin of Georgia Avenue, thence with the margin of Georgia Avenue N. 71° 45' W. 330 feet to a stake standing in the margin of Pine Street, thence with the margin of Pine Street S. 17° 21' W. 100 feet to a stake corner to lot No. 5, thence with the divisional line between lots Nos. 6 and 7, 337 feet to a stake, the BEGINNING...

Sale made pursuant to power of sale contained in that certain deed of trust executed by C. A. Black and wife, Leila M. Black, dated March 26, 1929, and recorded in Book 23, page 149, Record of Deeds of Trust of Haywood County.

Trustee: GEO. H. WARD, No. 331—May 2-9-16-23.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE On Monday, May 20, 1935, at eleven o'clock A. M., at the court house door in the town of Waynesville, North Carolina, I will sell to the highest bidder...

Beginning on a base bush at a point on the public road and runs to the center of the road thence South 37 1/2° West 15 1/2 poles to the ridge between N. F. Jones and Morgan, thence with the ridge North 69° West, 49 poles to the ridge thence with the ridge North 43° East, 5 poles to the ridge North 15° West 25 poles to a stake near the top of the ridge, thence North 56° East, 20 poles to a stake, Nelson-Ferguson-Morgan corner, thence with the top of the ridge as it winds with Ferguson's line, to the BEGINNING, containing 12 acres, more or less, as surveyed by J. A. Parke, Surveyor, September 1, 1927, and being part of the D. A. Owen lands.

Sale made pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain deed of trust executed by U. H. Ferguson, dated May 23rd, 1928, and recorded in Book 29, at page 170, Record of Deeds of Trust of Haywood County.

Trustee: J. R. MORGAN, No. 320—Apr. 25-May 2-9-16

NOTICE OF SUPPLIES BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, HAYWOOD COUNTY, NANNIE LOVE Vs. GEORGE LOVE

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Haywood County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff against the defendant for an absolute divorce on the grounds of two years' separation; the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Haywood County at the courthouse in Waynesville, North Carolina, on the 5th day of June, 1935, and answer or demur to the complaint filed in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

Shoe Repairing It Matters Not How Badly Worn Your Shoes May Be... We Can Fix 'em as good as New BRING THEM TO THE CHAMPION SHOE SHOP Next to Western Union

5th day of June, 1935, and answer or demur to the complaint filed in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

EXECUTRIX NOTICE Having qualified as executrix of the estate of Jere Davis, deceased, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the deceased to file them with the Clerk of the Superior Court of Haywood County on or before the 8th of May, 1935, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF JERE DAVIS, deceased. No. 329—May 9-16-23-June 6-13.

NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA, HAYWOOD COUNTY, IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, VIRGINIA McINTURFF, Vs. CLYDE McINTURFF.

The defendant, Clyde McInturff, will take notice that an action has been commenced in the Superior Court of Haywood County, North Carolina, to obtain divorce absolute under the statute, on the grounds of two years' separation; and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Haywood County, at his office in the Court House, in Waynesville, on the 1st day of July, 1935, and answer or demur to the complaint filed in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

Trustee: W. G. BYERS, No. 334—May 2-9-16-23.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER EXECUTION NORTH CAROLINA, HAYWOOD COUNTY, IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, Southern Discount Corporation, Vs. W. C. McCracken, Mollie McCracken, and G. H. McCracken.

Under and by virtue of an execution directed to the undersigned, Sheriff of Haywood County, from the Superior Court of Haywood County in the above entitled action, I will, on Monday, the 3rd day of June, 1935, at twelve o'clock noon, sell to the highest bidder for cash all right, title and interest of the defendants, W. C. McCracken, Mollie McCracken and G. H. McCracken, in and to the following described lands, to wit:

First Tract: On the north by the lands of Ed Browning, on the east by the lands of G. M. Boone on the south by the lands of Hemlett Bros., and on the west by the lands of Melford, said tract containing 246 acres more or less. See deeds recorded in Book 4, page 465, and in book 45, page 454.

Second Tract: On the north by the lands of Ed Swayngin, et al., on the east by the land of L. Crymes, on the south by the lands of G. H. McCracken and H. McCracken, and on the west by the lands of G. H. McCracken, said tract containing 96 acres more or less, and conveyed to W. C. McCracken by deed dated March 19, 1919, recorded in Book 53, page 159.

Third Tract: On the north by the lands of Pink Gray, on the east by the lands of J. Fitzgerald, on the south by the lands of R. M. Morris, and on the west by the lands of J. A. Fisher, said tract containing 21 acres more or less, and conveyed to said W. C. McCracken by deed dated December 21, 1925, recorded in Book 70, page 296, and Book 55, page 571, Book No. 57, page 115, and deed recorded in Book 56, page 191.

Fourth Tract: On the north by the lands of J. T. Fitzgerald, on the east by the lands of G. H. McCracken, on the south by the lands of George Love, heirs, and on the west by the lands of Wiley Bolden et al., said tract containing 17 1/2 acres, more or less, conveyed to said W. C. McCracken by deed dated May 23, 1925, and recorded in Book 63, page 602, Record of Deeds for Haywood County, North Carolina.

All of above mentioned and referred to books and pages made a part of the description of land herein conveyed. EXCEPTING and reserving from the above lands the following lands which have been allotted to the defendants, W. C. McCracken and Mollie McCracken as a homestead: BEGINNING at a stake on side of road 10 or 12 feet S. E. of barn, and running with angle of barn N. E. to a stake; then in a westerly direction to the road; then with the road around the house to the Beginning, so as to include the house and barn on said tract. Containing two acres. This the 2nd day of May, 1935. J. C. WELCH, Sheriff of Haywood County, No. 340—May 9-16-23-30.

NOTICE OF EXECUTION SALE NORTH CAROLINA, HAYWOOD COUNTY, IN THE SUPERIOR COURT, ETTA NOLAND Vs. M. J. McCracken. Under and by virtue of an execution directed to the undersigned, Sheriff of Haywood County, from the Superior Court of Haywood County on the 17th day of April, 1935, and answer or demur to the complaint filed in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

judgment of the court in said action, I will, on Monday, May 27th, 1935, at eleven o'clock A. M., at the court house door in the town of Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina, sell to the highest bidder for cash all right, title and interest of the defendant, M. J. McCracken, in and to the following described lands, to wit:

First Tract: On the north by the lands of J. T. Fitzgerald, on the east by the lands of G. H. McCracken, on the south by the lands of George Love, heirs, and on the west by the lands of Wiley Bolden et al., said tract containing 17 1/2 acres, more or less, conveyed to said W. C. McCracken by deed dated May 23, 1925, and recorded in Book 63, page 602, Record of Deeds for Haywood County, North Carolina.

Second Tract: On the north by the lands of Ed Swayngin, et al., on the east by the land of L. Crymes, on the south by the lands of G. H. McCracken and H. McCracken, and on the west by the lands of G. H. McCracken, said tract containing 96 acres more or less, and conveyed to W. C. McCracken by deed dated March 19, 1919, recorded in Book 53, page 159.

Third Tract: On the north by the lands of Pink Gray, on the east by the lands of J. Fitzgerald, on the south by the lands of R. M. Morris, and on the west by the lands of J. A. Fisher, said tract containing 21 acres more or less, and conveyed to said W. C. McCracken by deed dated December 21, 1925, recorded in Book 70, page 296, and Book 55, page 571, Book No. 57, page 115, and deed recorded in Book 56, page 191.

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE On Monday, May 27, 1935, at eleven o'clock A. M., at the court house door in the town of Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash all right, title and interest of the defendant, M. J. McCracken, in and to the following described lands, to wit:

First Tract: On the north by the lands of J. T. Fitzgerald, on the east by the lands of G. H. McCracken, on the south by the lands of George Love, heirs, and on the west by the lands of Wiley Bolden et al., said tract containing 17 1/2 acres, more or less, conveyed to said W. C. McCracken by deed dated May 23, 1925, and recorded in Book 63, page 602, Record of Deeds for Haywood County, North Carolina.

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