

"You can't understand, perhaps. | pried 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. Then she went on, sight-

ing her mill far away from the top

Martly was alone in the office when

"I'm sorry!" she exclaimed at bit

"Haven't seen him since dinner.

Tim Jeffers, just down from camp,

"Where's Ben at?" he asked Martin.

"I den't know. Miss McManus, here,

Martin moved to the old table Bon

"Sometimes he leaves a note for me

when he's going away." He bent over

the table, looking at the litter of pa-

pers on it. "No, he left no word. . . .

He picked up a slip of paper, read

"I didn't mean to pry. . . . Frob-

bly he's gone to meet you, though.

"A note! Why, I . . ." Frowning,

"Meet us at Antler Lodge this after-

"Why I" she cried. "I didn't . . . But

"Oh !" She let the paper flutter to

"I wrote that! I wrote that years

ago!" she cried, struggling to speak distinctly. "I wrote that note for Mr.

Prandon, . . . Years ago. . . . How did it get here? Who is calling Ben

"What's th's?" The Jeffers asked roughly. "Brandon? . . . Callin' Ben

"Don't you see?" Martin cried and

his voice was thick. "Down wrote it,

all right. But he's sent it to Ben. . . . It's a decay! 'Tim, the lad's on his

way to the lodge alone and Brandon's

No need for more words, then! On

"We'll go," he said to Dawn, "You

went Martin's jacket. From a corner

he snatched snowshoes and a palr for

I must have !"-looking from one to

the other. "That's my writing."

the single line inscribed on it and

Hum. . . . What's this?"

This is a note from you."

she took the paper and read:

 $M_{\overline{y}}$ 

she entered and started up so sharply

at sight of her that the girl, in turn.

mystified. "Did I frighten you?"

"No. Not frightened, . .

Don't know where he went."

thoughts were . . . far from here." "Is Ben about?"

of the next ridge.

was startled.

entered then.

was just asking."

used for a desk.

looked at Dawn.

noon .- Dawn."

the floor.

to the lodge?"

off alone ?"

planned It !"

tell Buller -- "

Tim.

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

"And then I had to remember what 1 am. Can't you see that a girl who is known as the daughter of a murderer can't let any man love her?"

"That's foolish ! . . . It's terrible, I know, for you to bear. But let me help, dear girl; let me stand by your side and help!"

"No. no! I can't bear it! I couldn't take a cloud to you and to your chil dren. . . . And it's all a mistake, all a liel My father was no killer !" Her voice rose in sharp conviction on that. "He was kind and gentle; he never would hurt another. All these years I've know it and others know it but just being sure in our own minds isn't enough. The whole world most knew I Semething tells me my father is alive somewhere, waiting, watching, suffering. . . . But until we can prove that or something else comes



"I Can't Stand It, Ben!"

up to banish this cloud . . . No, don't kiss me again! I can't stand it, I teli you! I can't stand it, Ben!" Sobbing, she fled the room.

"Well, that ought not to be impossible !" Elliott said to himself after a long, thoughtful interval "Nothing much is . . ."

He made no further moves toward love making after that but far into the 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. But he could not do it. He went nume; his brain clouded. He lay still and then after a time, sweet air poured again into his lungs

That was all of which he was aware for a long Interval: air, bathing his tortured chest. Al:, which had been denied him by the strangling grip of a man's hand.

That thought burned away the haze which enveloped h'm 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 'ocked together and held there as by a great weight.

A distinct odor pervaded the room. He grouned and strained again at his bonds.

Foots'ets, then, ca across the floor and Nicholas Brandon looked down at him in the dim light, a whisky bottle in his hand, sweying a tit on onsteady feet.

"So!" he grunted and loghed. "So you fell for it! So you followed your bl ssed Dawn, en?" He went off into a tantrum of crucy laughter.

Ben twisted slowly against his bonds and discovered that he rope which bound him was wet. He could no more free himself without aid than he could nope to fly.

"It worked !" Brandon cried. "G-d. how it worked! Down? you yealed like a foll standing outside there. 'Datana' , , , And then stepped into inv grap,  $eh^{\alpha_{1}}$  '

He sat awayi.y in a class, "It's all worked, even to the weather! ] You came alony. It's starting to sr w. Nobody's nearer than the Hoot Oul. and the shields of a lutring camp wouldn't be seen wear'r odlike this."

in the l Smotre of a Lagrant Contract ageing thoughts to not do to the with the older which filled the root . . . His forgers relt the erarch of henny that stretched from els wrists to the pasts or builds again i fine will Surely, the rone had been maked in kerosens. So it was Brandon's Intent to have line field helpless, to five the building. . . Then his pink to. tered on uncerting the scheme of this ruthless and rous will by ment

"Yesh, It worked replied and grim.ed.

He loorde.

camp'll burn like h-1 liself1 They'll find your bones here; they'll find an empty whisky bottle. That's all they'll find."

Brandon had schemed connectently. no detail which would implicate him seemed to have been overlooked. Still, fear did not manifest itself in Filioit's heart; only contempt was there for a man as mercliess. Contempt and a stout determination to stall for time. "You're smart, Brandon," he said "I'll adult 'hat, The plan's so good 'm surprised that you overlooked a

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE On Monday, May 27th, 1935, at leven o'clock A. M., at the court house door in the town of Waynes-ville. Haywood County, North Caro-lina, I will sell to the highest bidder en-h, at public outery, the fol lowing lands and premises, lying and being in the town of Hazelwood Haywood County, N. C., and morcarticularly described as follows: Being lot No. 7 of what is known as the Grimball Park Addition, which aid map, plat and subdivision is dul of second in the office of the Register of Deeds of Haywood County, N. C. Man Book "B." Index "G." to Map Book "B," Index which said map, plat and subdivi-tion reference is hereby made for a full and complete description of said two lots, and which said property is more particularly described as fol-

03:83 BECINNING at a stake standing in the center of the Southern Rail way treck, corner to lots No. 6 and of Block 4, as aforesaid, and runs thence N. 13 15' E. 190 feet to a stake in the margin of Georgia Ave.ue; thence with the margin of Georgia Avenue N. 71° 45' W. 330 feet to a stake standing in he mar feet to a stake standing in the mar gin of Pine Street; thence with the margin of Pine Street S. 17 21 W. 100 feet to a stake corr.r to lot No. 5; thence with the divisional line between hts Nor, 6 an<sup>4</sup> 7, 337 feet to a stake, the BEGINNING corper. Being one of the lots of land conveyed by J. R. Morgan and wife for a wind Morgan, and F. W. Interview of the state, on the grounds of the state, on the grounds of the state, on the grounds of the officer to a stake difference with the divisional line between hts Nor, 6 an<sup>4</sup> 7, 337 feet to a stake the BEGINNING carbination of the lots of land conveyed by J. R. Morgan and the F. W. Interview of the lots of land conveyed by J. R. Morgan and the feet to a stake divisional line between the lots of land conveyed by J. R. Morgan and F. W. vife, Cora Word Morgan, and F. W. Miller to C. A. Black and wife, Leila M. Black, by used dated June 11, 1928, and recorded in Book 77, page 250, Record of Peeds of Haywood County.

Sale made oursuant to power of sale contained in that cettain deed of rust executed by C A. Black and wife, LePa X. Black, dated March wife. 26, 1029, and r corded in Book 23, mage 109 Record of Deeds of Trust

of Has wood County, This 2.3th may of April, 193', GEO, H. WARD,

Trustee. No. 333-May 2-9-16-23.

COPUE OF TRUSTER'S SALE

er scherk A. M. zi the court house er scherk A. M. zi the court house cars in the to un of Waynesville, in the court of Waynesville, in the court of the ligh-light of the source, on the high-light of the source in the fighand is minimized by and being in Hay and G. H. McCracken, Molt and G. H. McCracken, and Ender and by virtue TO X 1

bounded as follows. BLGINNING on in which at a but it will be and and runs be to the centor

replied and grinned. Brandon shorted in contents "So far, yes; and or to the end, if it work. You're the fast, arch't you're leaning low so Ben could see the that lights in his eyes. "You're the hund and foot! Fit back the endp of You'll roas: ... because this e'd camp'll burn like h-1 hight They'n D. A. Ower, 'arde.

> Sale made pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain deed of trust executed by U. H. Ferguson, duted May 2364, 1928, and recorded in Book 29, at page 170, Record of Deeds of Trust of Haywood Courty.

This 19th lay of April, 1335

5th day of June, 1935, and answer or judgme demur to the complaint filed in said 1 action, or the plaintiff will apply to]. the court for the relief demanded in to the his said complaint. title and

This the 6th day of May, 1935. W. G. BYERS, Clerk of the Superior Court. No. 3°9-May 9-16-23-30,

EXECUTRIX NOTICE

ist follow Having qualified as executriz of the n h ph state of Jere Davis, deceased, this is boundary to notify all persons having claims tract and against the estate of the deceased to TUDE WOU file them with the Clerk of the Su-14 100lea : perior Court of Haywood County on or before the 8th of May, 1936, or South 17 r before the sth of day, the bar of on ridge this notice will be pleaded in bar of blackgum on ridges ? their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate tract: their East 28 per

will please make settlement at once. This the 8th day of May, 1935. MRS, LULA B DAVIS, BEGINNIN

Executrix of the estate of Jere Davis, deceased. No. 329-May 9-16-23-30-June 6-13.

NOTICE

NORTH CAROLINA. HAYWOOD COUNTY

N THE SUPERIOR COURT. VIRGINIA MeINTURFF,

two years separation; and the said in the office defendant will further take notice of Haywoon that he is required to appear at the 551, to which officce of the Clerk of the Superior ence is here! Court of Haywood County, at his office in the Courthouse, in Waynes-in Ivy Hill ville, on the 1st day of July, 1935, and answer or demur to the comlangs of P BEGINNING

p'aint filed in said action, or the road near the plaintif will apply to the Court for the ridge ne Cracken' he relief demanded in said com-South 3" plaint. This the 1st day of May, 1935. to a pear

W. G. BYERS, Clerk Superior Court. No 334-May 2-9-16-23.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER EXECU-TION NORTH CAROLINA.

HAYWOOD COUNTY. IN THE SUPERBOR FOURT . stouthern Discount Corporation.

N 4. A. C. McCracken, Mollie McCracker,

Under and by virtue of an execuricularly becaude and then directed to the undersigned. Sheriff of Haywood County, from the Superior court of Buseenibe County in

the above entitiel action, I will, on The test of the center Monday, the 3 day of June, 1935, at ower sul Menters, mence with the crack on Mollie McCracken and G. H. Crack on Mollie McCracken and G. H. Crack on Mollie McCracken and G. H.

Marce concer, there with the top of the eldre at it, winds with Fergu-tates as will more fully appear by son's line, to the EEGINNING, con-taining 12 acrea, more or less, as per survey of J. A. Parko, Surveyor, Sep-tender, 1922, and being part of the D. A. Ower barde eigh, North Carolina, and bounded as follows:

West 3 chains FIRST TRACT: On the north by the West 9 chanses lands of Ed Browning, on the east thence South 7 by the lands of G. M. Boone on the stake; thence uth by the lands of Bramlett Bros., chains to a staand on the west by the lands of road; thence a

Medford, said tract containing 246 25 links; then

11:11

J. Mech lesin'ilien

FLAST

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ress tract.

line North

SECOND

In Crabber

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NING at a

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Campbell's

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North Settlets

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links, Korta

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West 28 chieff

South 35 15 1

chains 25 Units

chains 50 htla

LITTHE \$6

R. Terre'l. (

lands of C.

and others.

fork ridke

night he talked with Dawn of her lather. She had not heard all of the story, he realized. She did not know, for instance, that the tragedy which preceded McManus' disappearance took place in Antler lodge; she did not know how far her father had gone in his attempts to drown sorrow of his wife's death by drinking. But she did know that Faxon was dead, that her father was blamed and that a dusty warrant for his arrest on a charge of homicide still reposed in the county records.

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. The net yield of that search was only to impress him with the proportions of the new task he had set for himself and as he drove out of town his heart was heavier than it had been in years.

Putting the Hoot Owl on its feet had been a lark; shearing Brandon of his power had been hazardous but, after all, simple. . . . But this other was something else again.

That night Bird-Eye Blaine sat with Elliott for long and went over the circumstances leading up to Faxson's death. Men in Tincup commenced to whisper that Elliott was delving into the McManus case and the gossip reached Brandon who was locked in his office much of the time, now, soaked with whisky. He did not drink for many hours after the news reached him. He kept his head clear and planned. " Il'm

## 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.

It was on Friday that Dawn left Tincup, striking across country far from the road toward Hoot Owl.

She was going to see Ben Elliott and tell him that she must see him now, that her heart could have no peace without him; that he must come to her and let her stand beside him while he

"But I'm going, too!" the girl cried sharply, "I'm going, Ob, hurry, lim! We may be too late now !"

They crossed the rairoad tracks a a run, put on their snowshoes and with Jeffers breaking trail, entered the timber. Another had gone that way today, a man whose heart burned and sang. Dawn had sent for him; Dawn wanted him!

Entering the office while Martin was in the mill his eyes had encountered Dawn's note. No thought of how it came to be there presented itself. The quick conclusion at which he arrived was that Dawn and others had gone to Antler Lodge; that was where the shot had been fired which sent Sam Faxson to his death. Perhaps Able had taken Dawn there. Hastily, he took his snowshoes and departed.

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. As he went down the slope he saw

snowshoe tracks outside the place. "Hello!" he cried, mounting a drift

and stopping. "Hello, in there !" No answer. He twisted his feet

hastily out of their straps, wondering a bit. For once his alertness was gone, for once he was wholly off guard. "Dawn!" he called again as he shoved open the door. "Hello, who's here-'

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, llving weight.

But as Elliott went down, with his assallant on top, he drew his knees up-

ward, bowed his back and with a trick of rough-and-tumble fighting used the very impact which had floored him to toss the man on beyond.

He heard him curse, saw the other turn as he pitched across the floor and scramble to his feet.

"Brandon !" he cried hoarsely as a savage joy swept him.

At last he was face to face with the man who had struck so many times from the darkness and from behind !

Brandon did not speak. He rushed with head lowered. Great arms wrapped Ben's body, a head drove into the pit of his stomach, driving the breath from his body.

He fell to the floor fighting, but his

bet." The other turned sharply,

"A ber?" he cursed derisively. "What d' you mean, a bet?" "A little thing. A thing almost any-

body might overlook. But it's bound to come to light if I don't show up, and one murder charge's as good as another. I'm talking about a letter Don NANNIE LOVE

Stuart wrote me just before he died." 'Its' a lie. Whatever he wrote was a lie!" Braudon's cry was shrill, "Pe was a drucken, lying bum!"

"Which, even if true, wouldn't matter so much, now. Once, It would have, A few weeks ago, it might have. But net now, . . Things have changed in the Tincop country; people have changed. There are dozens who'd jump at the chance to make trouble for you, now, Brandon, an't-"

"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 I" 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. "He's on his way back and what he'll have to tell, coupled with what old Don had the courage to put down in his own writing-"

"Stuart didn't know! He knew nothing, I tell you! He wasn't even here! He took Faxson's word for it and even Faxson didn't know. He was asleep in that room right there"pointing-"and he came out while we were talking and Mac went crazy Elliott could not restrain the impulse to laugh in a wild shout of triumph. "While we were talking! So that's it! And you've sworn that you weren't here that night! And you were here after all !"

"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. . . ."

"So you admit, as the rest of us now know, that McManus didn't throw himself into the river that night, ch? So you admit he still lives, do you?" "Admit nothing . . . nothing. . He's a murderer, I tell you. . . . And

I wasn't here . . . He's a murderer, I tell you. . . And I wasn't here (To Be Continued.

J. R. MOPGAN. Trustee. No. 520-Apr 25-May 2-9-16

NOTICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLI CATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

HAYWOOD COUNT N THE SUPERIOR COURT

Vs. GEORGE LOVE

The gefendant above named will as move has been commenced in the Superior Court of Haywood County, North Carolina, by the plaintiff against the detendant for an absolute diverce 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



cres more or less. See deeds recordhalos d in Book 4., page 465, and in book 15, mage 454.

SECOND TRACT: On the north by be lands of Ed Swayngin, et al., on the east oy the land of L. Crymes, on Medford. the south by the lambs of G. H. Mc-Cracken and H. McCracken, and on the west by the lands of G. H. Me-Cracken, 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 take notice that an action entitled 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 he 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 171/2 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 'arolina.

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 alloted 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 2 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 Superr Court of Haywood County on the

(formerly a d 15' West RECINSION more or les

This the 2 WELTH of Harst No. 341 - More plant in

NOTICE OF TRU STEEL On Monday, May 27, 19 o'clock, A. M.

in the town of wood County. 1.355 sell at public 1011237-00 bidder fe, cath. and premises

BEGINNING the South side Sycama Hazewo Main Street. Being the North 2, Block "B," B Hazelwood, ? the margin 15' East with T TO C STARE Street, 216 fe of State Highway South 41° 30 West about 42 ourign of 4 out 52 H Webst about a stake in North margin d Avenue; thence Kentucky with margin with margin of Kennes about 50 feet to a stain of lot No. 30, in Black "B," then 22° 35' West with line of M2 2, about 358 feet to the BEGN being the part of Black "A being the part State Highway No. 16, 15 Bra as per survey by J. W. Sam upon the mer of the poer Sale made sale conferred

trustee by viria contained in that ce executed by John F. Bas P Hallie V. Bass, dated Occder and recorded in Book 29, at a Record of Deeds of Trust of B

County. This the 26th day of April L. L. COUNC

No. 331-Apr. 25, May 14

ADMINISTRATEIX NOT Having qualified as admin of the estate of Kenneth E for deceased Having qualities each £ hi of the estate of Kennet £ hi deceased, late of Haywood North Carolina, this is to persons having claims are estate of said deceased in them to the undersigned a hi ville, N. C., on or before the of April, 1906, or this more pleaded in bar of their reem please make immediate part This 17th day of April, 18 JOSEFHINE C. FERDING Administratrix of estate di

Administratrix of estate of

No. 828-Apr. 18-25-May 24

ceased.