



By Ben Ames Williams
At a gathering of cronies in the village of Liberty, Maine, Jim Salas...

CHAPTER I—Continued

For Will was a man, and flushed with the pride of first manhood; and in his eyes Jenny was still no more than a child. An adoring child...

CHAPTER II

WILL FERRIN came back to Hostile Valley before May; but not to stay. Old Enoch, Will's father, endured the winter...

stayed behind to do what must still be done by the grave; and Will spoke as they walked side-by-side...

In winter time, Will had cut and fitted a plentiful supply of wood to last till spring; the roots were in the cellar, salt pork in the jars...



She Saw or Felt or Heard a Movement on the Bank Above Her.

Bart Carey; and Amy, Bart's sister, came to Marm Pierce one night for sanctuary. "They're over there, the both of them, drunk on Bart's cider," Amy explained...

TREMENDOUS TRIFLES
By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

"UNLESS"
THE department commander places too much confidence in your zeal, energy and ability to wish to impose on you precise orders...

He and old Win Haven had always found a certain ritual bond between them. Bart, though he was three or four years older than Will Ferrin, had never married...

There was in the lower reaches of the brook just above the bog a long pool with a sandy bottom and deep water at the head; and Jenny, on a hot summer day, used sometimes to go there to bathe...

But one day when she was wading into the foot of the pool, the sand sort between her toes, her skirts high, she saw or felt or heard a movement on the bank above her and looked up and discovered Bart standing smiling there...

"Water's cold, ain't it?" She shook her head. "Feels good, a hot day," she said. She was not confused or embarrassed, not even resentful. He had a right to be there if he chose...

"Just looking over the brook," he explained. "Couple of men coming to fish tomorrow, and I wanted to see where the trout was lying. Water's kind of low."

"Granny'll be wondering where I've went to." "Set and talk," he urged. "I want to talk to you, Jenny." "Walk along with me, then," she proposed, and moved resolutely on her way...

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