

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE

Giles Chittenham sets out to make Julie Farrow love him, intending to throw her over in revenge for the suicide of his brother Rodney, whom Julie had cast off. He succeeds but finds that he has fallen deperately in love with her himself. Then he discovers that it was not this Julie Farrow, but her cousin of the same name, who had driven his brother to death. But Giles is married, to an American girl named Sadie Barrow, with whom he has not lived for a long time. Sadie unexpectedly turns up in London, at a party at Giles' mother's house, but koth keep

silent about their marriage. Julie, disillusioned, enters into to pay, surely—I cannot imagine the wild night life of London to try that Schofield would crap at it in re-Schofield wants to marry her. Lombard, who had first introduced her to Chittenham, demands money from in Chittenham's face Giles with the threat that if he is not paid he will tell Schofield that flat last night?"

Chittenham and Julie night together on the St. Bernard Pass. Later Julie confesses to Chittenham that she loves him.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

The two men made no attempt at

greeting. Chittenham said: "You're in rather a hurry, aren't you? However, you've saved me the trouble of sending it to you. You can have your two hundred.'

Lombard smiled—an unpleasant smile.

"I want five hundred" "You agreed for two"

"The price has gone up since last night."

There was an eloquent silence and Lombard said calmly

to pay, surely—I cannot imagine turn for the favour you received last night." He shrugged his shoulders as he saw the passionate rage

"It was you outside Miss Farrow

Why Count Sheep?

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laxing your muscles, making your mind a blank, all no use. You'll feel "all in" tomorrow.

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"I waited three hours-very patiently, you will admit. With an effort Chittenham con-

trolled himself. "I give you just five seconds to

get out of here," he said. "Very well. You know what I intend to do. I shall tell Schofield what happened in Switzerland and again last night-

"Tell him, and I'll break every bone in your body."

Lombard went on evenly, not heeding the violent outburst. "And I shall tell Miss Farrow that

the woman she has been making her friend is your wife."

Chittenham was white to the lips, but he laughed. "You can spare yourself the trou-I have already told her my-

self." For a moment the two men glared at one another, and it took all Chittenham's will-power to maintain his self-control, then Lombard said

"I'll make you sorry for this before I've done!'

'Get out, or I'll make you sorry

The door closed between them. For some moments after Lombard came in.

had gone, Chittenham stood staring at the closed door tell her the whole truth. But Fate ped.

was against him. He went to Julie's clung to him only last night clung to him only last night restaurants where he thought she might be but could not find her.

-this was not even the wild, broken Julie who had hurt him with her her the meaning the next the restaurants. till the afternoon when they would unhappy weeks-this was a woman meet at his mother's home.

He purposely arrived rather late.

Mrs. Ardron, who was near the door, crept to him and whispered that he

"Sadie is no better. The doctor crept to him and whispered that he must be very quiet.

she squeezed his hand excitedly. Giles stood beside her, angry and an unexpected challenge.

silent.

room sitting in a ring, and apparently holding hands. There was a queer aromatic scent in the air, and curious feeling of nervous tension. cumstances He saw now that the light from

the shaded lamp was falling on the face and figure of a man whom he supposed must be the great Chryer.

A strange-looking man with a pale ascetic face and love with a pale ascet ascetic face and long dark hair, who like this? How can you look at me lay back in the chair, his eyes closed in such a way?" and his hands clasped against his breast.

Presently he began to speak in a his unflinchingly.

"How long have you known Sadie?" sing song dreamy sort of voice.

before me in the darkness not know-you?" drew a quick breath and there followed a little silence, broken again almost at once by the same sing-song voice—"Two women and one man—in the darkness all of them. longer," she said with a harsh and two of them will come out into the light, but the third will never breath.

. here, close beside me. . . . His clasped hands released one er's agitated hand. His clasped hands released one another, and moved forward in a curiously groping fashion as if seeking to find something. Giles did not know whether to be amused or angry. What fools women were to be taken in by such a charlatan! He had moved back a step to find the switch of the light when suddenly those groping hands swooped down with a curious pouncing movement with a curious pouncing movement.

"Giles—they want you at once—the doctor sent me for you—oh, Giles!" she caught his arm with ineffectual hands. "I don't understand! I feel as if I am going mad, or as if every one else is—what do they all mean? And if it is the truth why didn't you tell me? Sadie is saying awful things, too—she must be light-headed! She says she's your wife? How can she be your

in the frightened voice of a woman, and then the cry of his own name:

"Giles! Giles "

"Is it true?" she appealed help-

"Giles! Giles . . It seemed an eternity until his lessly.

It was Sadie's voice, he knew, and when at last the room was flooded with light he saw that she was standing up, her hands covering her face, her childish body swaying to and fro as if in great pain or terror, while the walling repetition of his while the wailing repetition of his swered with stiff lips. She took name came from her lips monoton-Mrs. Ardron's hands and held them,

It was like a scene in a dreamthe ring of half frightened women— ing. "I'm quite sure it's true that and the strange figure of the man Sadie is his wife," she said again Chryer as he rose slowly to his feet, gently. a shocked, awakened look in his when just as she felt she could bear

She turned swiftly at the sound of into the street.

She turned swiftly at the sound of her name, her hands outstretched and when he took them in his, she clung to him, sobbing and shaking like a frightened child.

He kept protecting arms round his wife's slim figure as he glared round the room with furious eyes.

His mother, Doris and half a dozen other women whom he knew and the sound into the street.

"She is my wife—"

They seemed to be the only words that would take form and find utterance in her brain—

For Chittenham she had sent Lawrence Schofield away. For Chittenham she had deliberately dashed Schofield's happiness to the ground.

"I have changed my mind. I don't care for any the street."

and straight, looking at him across now once more the brief dream was I dry your clothes for you? the room, a pitiful, wondering ques- ended-or wasn't it? After all tion in her pretty eyes, her face nothing was really altered. He had want anything, you need not wait. quite colourless, her hands gripping deceived her about Sadie, it was a chair back

arms fell from his wife and he took him-and if he still wanted his an involuntary step away from her. freedom and Sadie was willing to "Giles! . . . ." and then before any give it to him-

one could move to help her she fell fainting at his feet.

hands carried Sadle from the room, hard to regain. It had been the disaster.

her." "It's only an ordinary faint,"

"I'm Doris said contemptuously. surprised at Sadie being such a fool. have been something between them

The others had all gone and Chittenham stood with an elbow on the wife. The one woman of all the mantel-shelf staring down at the many in the world who had a right grate which was filled with flowers to him and to his love and his pro-and ferns. He could think of nothing but that pitiful, wondering question in Julie's eyes.
"What was she thinking? What

had she guessed?

What a fool he had been not to tell her the truth last night; she would have understood and forgiven him then. Would she understand or forgive him now?

It seemed an eternity until the door opened behind him and Julie

Chittenham turned. He made a swift movement towards her as if He would see Julie at once and to take her in his arms, then stop-

This was not the woman who had out to lunch. He went to several whispered how much she loved him -this was not even the wild, broken There was nothing for it but to wait utter recklessness during the past whom he had never seen before,

has just come. Would you like to

"It's so wonderful!" she breathed, go to her now?" Giles flushed scarlet. It was such

"Why should I go to her? What Now he was more accustomed to do you mean?" he asked roughly. the darkness he could see that there were about a dozen people in the he could not have controlled their

"I only thought . . . in the cir-

He covered the ground between them in a stride and caught her by

He felt her slim body stiffen beneath his grasp, and her eyes met

"Two women and one man—one Why did she call out to you and run man and two women . . . they stand to you like that? What is she to

There was an agonized question ing of the tragedy that divides and will still divide their lives . . ." He ni her voice though she tried des-

She moved back a step when he would have touched her and both

"Julie-" Chittenham broke out blindness! The blindness of the eyes . . . . here, close beside me. . . .

and fastened on something or some one in the silent ring of listeners.

A piercing scream rang through the silence of the room, a scream in the frightened voice of a woman, and then the room that the right result is a says sne's your wife? How can she be your wife when you are not married?"

Giles turned on his heel and strode out of the room. Mrs. Ardfon turned to Julie, both white, use-

fingers came into contact with the In her present distress she would switch, and still that cry went on: In her present the worst enemy for have turned to her worst enemy for

hardly realizing what she was do-

a shocked, awakened look in his somnolent eyes. Then Mrs. Ardron began to cry hysterically, and the whimpering sound seemed to break the spell which was upon every one. Giles took a quick stride forward:

"Goldstol"

When just as she left she could be no more the doctor came into the room. Mrs. Ardron at once turned her attention to him and Julie sliped away. She took her coat from a maid on the landing and went out

lozen other women whom he knew an't marry you. I don't care for

Julie was standing up, very stiff rence that only this morning. And true, but apart from that things And then for a moment nobody were in no wise changed. Chitten-

"Giles-Giles

The memory of Sadie's agonized Chittenham was very pale and his cry came back to her, ending afresh voice was rough and uneven as kind the peace which she was trying so He was conscious of impending cry of a woman to, a man she loved, or so Julie told herself in bitterest "We've sent for a doctor," his jealousy, and she remembered how mother said. "Julie is staying with often Sadie had spoken of Gilesand in what a queer, rather shy way -as if-even then it had seemed to Julie almost as if there might And now she knew. Sadie was his afternoon in her hysterical fear.

The maid came tapping at the 1928 and \$92,665,949 in 1927.

"Aren't you very wet, Miss? Can

"No, no. I'm not wet and I don't She heard the girl move reluctantly away and then a moment later the shutting of the front door. But moved or spoke, but Chittenham's ham still loved her and she loved it was a long time before Julie moved or stirred. The room quite dark save for the yellow light from the street lamp outside, and the fitful rain had settled into a steady downpour and was beating against the window.

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

Mary had a little skirt So neat, so bright, so airy It never shows a speck of dirt But surely does show Mary.

Teacher-"Did your father help you with this problem?" Briteboy-"No, I managed to get this one wrong by myself."

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