

HELEN'S TURN TO GASP

By J. B. OXFORD.

It was warm, even for late June. Outside the sun poured down his heat from a cloudless sky. There was not enough breeze to stir the leaves. The white road wound away like some white-hot band.

Within the bungalow, with the shades drawn and a sense of coolness pervading the place, Helen Martin was softly playing arias from "Eulalie," the opera which had set the music world agog the previous winter.

She had begun her favorite aria of all, when there came on the driveway without a strident chugging, the whirl of tires on the coarse gravel. Somebody landed heavily on the porch; the same somebody shouted a boisterous "Hello!" The same somebody pounded loudly on the screen door, and before she could answer the summons, pulled it open and stepped into the hall with a cheerful: "Anybody up yet in this quiet tomb?"

Helen flushed angrily as she saw Jimmy Smith, the big, young man who was staying at the Keiths'.

"O, how could you!" she cried in vexation. "I was playing."

"You ought to be interrupted," said he, severely. "The idea! Playing the piano such a morning as this. Fire on you! Come on for a little run in the car with me, will you?"

"I was playing the arias from 'Eulalie.' I love them!" she replied.

"Better 'Eulalie' and all composers," snapped he. "I'm going down for the morning mail. I was sure you'd want to go with me."

There was something very like boyish disappointment in his last words.

"O, well," she conceded, "if you're going to cry about it—"

"I am if you don't go," said he. She smilingly stepped to the hall rack for a veil to tie down her thick chestnut hair.

They sped down the road. Jimmy Smith ran a car at all kinds of speed. They had just entered a shady stretch of woods, when he slowed down the car and turned to her abruptly.

"Tell me," he said, "what sort of a man is your ideal?"

She did not immediately reply.

"I mean, what sort of a man must he be whom you marry?" he pursued.

"What nonsense," she sniffed.

"Well, tell me, just the same."

"O, he must be every inch a man, and as to his mental make-up, well, I think I'd like him to be very gentle and fine and—O, very fond of music."

"People who are really, really fond of music are temperamental very often," he reminded her. "Apt to be fools when they are men. Awful to get along with and all that."

"Really," she said severely. "It was late afternoon when there

came a big box of records from Chicago. "I've been thinking over the requirements you listed for me this morning," the note ran, "and I've got the unbounded nerve to think I fill them in some small ways. Yours ever, The Jimmy Smith Boy."

Helen began to laugh. Then suddenly she stopped. Instead she flushed.

Then she had a quick idea. She would try him out. They were giving a concert for the hospital at Westport.

They were to play and sing music from "Eulalie." She would ask him to take her over. She would see how he behaved.

She dispatched the note and promptly at 7:15 the next evening Jimmy Smith was at the step in his car.

"Really want to go over to that concert?" he asked. "There's a bully moon and—"

"We're going to the concert," said she. "They're going to render quite a bit of 'Eulalie.'"

"Drat 'Eulalie!'" he burst out. "I'm tired to death of it!"

The concert was given in the Orpheum theater at Westport. Mr. Smith seemed to be bored by it. Indeed, when it was about three-quarters over and Mme. Brahme was singing a wonderful song, Helen, glancing at him, was horrified to find him with his head, sound asleep. A moment later a very audible snore induced her to nudge him into wakefulness.

"This settles it," she told herself, as he sat up blinking.

The concert was finished. They moved together down the aisle and had nearly reached the door when some one came pushing after them.

"O, my dear, dear Meester Smit," so good, so vera good of you to come to hear your own work so poorly done by us here tonight!"

Helen turned and gasped. Mme. Brahme—the great Mme. Brahme—was clutching at Jimmy's sleeve, and he was smiling foolishly, like some little, naughty child, caught in mischief, and looking at Helen out of the corners of his eyes.

He was still looking very sheepish as he presented her to Mme. Brahme.

"You should be so vera proud to know heem, my dear," said madam. "Such a wonderful genius, and 'Eulalie' only his first work. He will go far. And you (she turned to Jimmy) don't deserve to know such a pretty pretty girl."

On the way home Jimmy allowed down the car sufficiently to slip one arm about the girl.

"I came down here to the Keiths' to get away from it all. I was tired," he said. "My first name is Jimmy. If my middle name I use for the public can you ever forgive me?"

"Everything—everything!" she declared, "except that name."

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On account of Annual football game between University of North Carolina and University of Virginia the Southern Railway will operate a special train consisting of first class day coaches and standard Pullman sleeping car from Charlotte, Salisbury, High Point, Reidsville, Danville and intermediate points to Richmond and return. The special train will leave Charlotte at 8:00 p. m., Wednesday, November 26th, and arrive Richmond 6:50 a. m., Thursday, November 27th. Returning will leave Richmond midnight, November 27th. The following low round trip fares will apply from stations named,

Statesville	\$4.50
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TAXES!

On January 1st 1 per cent penalty will be added to all unpaid taxes, which amounts to 12 per cent per year. I am making this extra round at my own expense to save the people of my county of paying \$900.00 per month interest.

Please meet me at the following places and get your receipt: NOVEMBER 1913

- Jake Heiner's store, half day, 9 a. m. to 12 m. " 17
- Plateau, half day, at Workman's store 1 to 4 p. m. " 17
- Pearly Mall's store half day, 9 a. m. to 12 m. " 18
- Food & Whisenand's store, half day, 1 to 4 p. m. " 18
- Conover, half day, 9 a m to 12 " 19
- Isabel our's store, half day, 1 to 4 p m " 19
- Maiden, half day, 1 to 4 p m " 19
- John Killian's store half day, 9 a. m. to 12 m. " 20
- L. Keisler's store half day, 1 to 4 p m. " 20
- W. L. Alley's store, half day, 9 a m to 12 m. " 21
- A. C. Summit's (Bandys X Roads) half day 1 to 4 p m " 21
- A. B. Withers (Olivers X Roads) one day 9 to 2 " 22
- Murray's Mill, half day 9 to 12 " 24
- J. J. Hatchford's Store, half day one to 4 p m. " 24

EVERY DAY DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, NEXT DOOR TO THE BUSY BEE CAFE.

For the convenience of the Taxpayers of Hickory Township I will have Dept. J. P. Burns to collect tax every day during the month of December. NEXT DOOR TO THE BUSY BEE CAFE, from 2 o'clock p. m. to 7 p. m., EXCEPT SATURDAYS, which will be ALL DAY. Mr. Burns will also meet you at the following places to collect your tax

- North Deal's store, half day 9 a m to 12 m. " 17
- Q M Smith's store, half day, 1 to 4 p m " 17
- John Holler's store, half day, 9 a m to 12 m " 18
- Claremont, half day, 1 to 4 p m, at Hewitt's store " 18
- Catawba, one day 9 a m to 4 p m J. U. Long & Co's " 19
- Long Island half day, 9 a m to 12 m " 20
- Monby, half day, 1 to 4 p m " 20
- Sherrill's Ford, one day, " 21
- Terrell, half day, 9 a m to 2 p m " 22

Respectfully,
R. LEE HEWITT, Sheriff.

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