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PHONES



uneral Home is equipped gnified manner of Com-appointment. Facilities roperly meet each re-ment of a ceremony of

lilkinson's Funer al Home

PHONE 9

This blankety-blinkin ton to the 'ell! Got a lot of pluck orl right,

now, tact, tact.

"Very good. I thoroughly understand." God, what a cheek.

"Good night, then, Mr Quex," said Tony. "I'm greatly obliged to

'Good night, Gov'nor," said Mr



And finally, after undressing very quietly in order not to disturb Chrissie, Tony, being blessed with youth

Stop-overs permitted at Washington and Baltimore in each direction within final limit of had, however, reviewed the state of

things.

It was natural, after all, he told himself, that this man who had been forn on, and made his living out of, that island should have been considerably jarred by the sudden artival of its claimant after all his fears of sole and complete possession. Perfectly natural. What would have been his own feelings of sole and complete possession. have been his own feelings under a seversal of the position? On the whole, therefore, he had behaved txtremely well. The point was lustly and rightly taken, too, as to his having accepted the interlopers

lustly and rightly taken, too, as to his having accepted the interlopers on their face value. The caretaker of another man's property, it was his futly to be satisfied as to the identity of his wholly unexpected visitors and the authenticity of their claim. Obviously. There was no doubt foot that. Also it was human to hope that there be something fishy in all this which would prevent his being deposed from his hitherto unfontested seat, and if he intended to but up a fight, he had every right on his side. Should he, in spite of his apperance and his brutal mentioned so f punishing delinquents, turn but to be a rough but honest man, the production of the deeds and their lodgment with the consul would be all that was needed to make him resign with cheerfulness and accept with stoicism the new regime. Should be, on the contrary, live up to his urliness and show any definite signs of the rascality that he had suggested bence or twice, the greatest care must be taken to keep the priceless chart away from him with its tremendous temptation to play the crooked game. As one who had lived on his with and been in command of men in war, Tony had great knowledge of thuman mature. Like a doctor, a knyer, a banker, or a card sharp, it had been his business—his only one before the war, when everything had changed—to study men. The result of all this and of his service had been to give him a deep-seated faith in the human race. Treated with kindness, imagination and understanding, good, bad and indifferent men all responded; cowards warmed into a false courage, ungrateful devils showed a certain famount of graciousness, dirty dogs refrained temporarily from snapping at other people's bones. Even in the case of Sherwood who, heaven knew, had lived under long years of suffering and a fanatical grievance, there were. Tony held, many plausible reasons for excuse. And so, being a confirmed, optimits with a justifiable confidence in his win-

bed. For a moment she though she must utter a scre could be heard not on the ya in with the Sherwood scheme, Is Panton Street because there, Is those two clean, normal rooms, had been the cage-like safety of a home "You little fool," she said in he head, "be brave. Control yourself Say a prayer. Guard over Tony Tony, oh, my Tony!" And so, hard ly breathing, she sat erect, fingers stretched, eyes distended, nostril wide, mouth open—until, outside after an angry growl, a door banged and after that nothing to disturb throlling drum of sea.

Then she relaxed, bent over an kissed Tony on the lips. Not in the spirit of wifely or maternal love, ollover's passion, but as a frightened child pleading to be held, and hidden, and warmed. Tony slept like a log. She kissed him again and the again, with her arms about hum, she tremble and the icy limbs turned with quick anxiety.

But before he could speak helmand was on his mouth, that wonden ful, small hand. "Sssh—whisper."

He whispered, "What is it, Christ" With her mouth almost to his eat

He whispered, "What is it, Chris

He whispered, "What is it, Christ"
With her mouth almost to his est
she told him, and felt him go tast
like a rope.

"The chart. The chart. They've
got it. My God. I've lost it. Thi
island's gone."

"The chart? Is that the thing they
were after? Why?"

"To destroy my proofs. To do mo
out of my kingdom. Can't you see!
At the very moment when I am
needed most. You heard those
screams."

And without a word she took him

And without a word she took his hand and guided it to her breast beneath her nightgown.

A paper crimkled, and with hes face against his face, Tony felt the wrinkling of a nose.

"Oh, God," he said. "Chris, you—you most amazing Chris. Where would I be without you?"

"There's no such place," she said.

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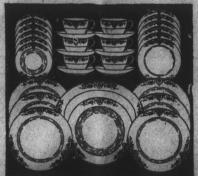
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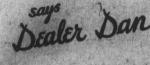
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