

# TOMORROW'S PROMISE

by Temple Bailey



## CHAPTER IX

He said again, roughly, "He shan't have you. No man shall have you but me." He caught her to him and kissed her.

Anne, tearing herself from Garry's arms, turned and saw Charles. He was looking past her to Garry. "Will you tell me," he said in an even tone, "why you did a thing like that?"

Garry faced him defiantly, "Because she told me things were over between us. But they're not. She's mine. I'll prove it some day."

"She is not yours. Did you tell him, Anne, that you are to be my wife?"

Anne's world went whirling. The wide sky and the wide ocean seemed to sway and rise as if to engulf her before she found voice to say, "I—I am going to marry him, Garry."

"You mean you—love him?"

"Yes."

Garry lost control of himself completely. "Well, if you want him, you can have him. But I'll tell you this—I've got something to give you that he hasn't. I've got a first love and a name that hasn't been dragged through the courts."

Charles took a step toward him. "In the old days I would have demanded satisfaction of you for that, or have been called a coward. But today we are more civilized. We know that the coward is one who twists the truth to further his own ends."

"You mean I am lying?"

"I mean that I can offer more than you can offer, and you know it."

Garry's fists were clenched, but this was not the moment to fight.

He said to Anne, "You'll be sorry. And you won't be happy."

"You can't know that, Garry."

"I know you better than you know yourself. Patterson has another wife, and even if the courts have set him free she'll always be a ghost rising up between you."

Anne said, "Please go, Garry." He went, driving furiously.

When they were alone Charles said, "He told me the truth, Anne. I had no right to come to you."

"You had every right. Don't let Garry spoil our day, darling."

His face was lighted. "You can call me that?"

"Why not, if I'm going to marry you?"

"I had to say it to stop Garry. But it wasn't the way I had planned to propose to you."

"How had you planned?"

"I was going to wait until everyone was gone and we were alone with the sea and the sky."

"We are alone now. Vicky has gone off with the children—she caught her breath. Tell me now. Tell me!"

He had her in his arms. "You know it all without my telling."

"But I want to hear you say it."

He said it again and again until the afternoon waned and the sun went down and the flame of the afterglow was gold and red. "Tomorrow's promise," Charles whispered, "for clear skies and quiet seas. Shall we call it an omen, dear heart, for our future?"

Tomorrow's promise? Clear skies? Or storms? Anne clung to her lover. Whichever came, she was his—forever.

Garry, meeting Margot at a dinner party in Washington on her return from London said, "Your ex-husband is to marry Anne Ordway."

"Marry her?"

"Yes."

"How do you know?"

"I heard it from her own lips, and I saw him with her. He's quite mad about her?"

"And you mean to let him have her?"

"I can't snatch her from the altar, can I? It isn't done in these days."

Margot laughed and shrugged her shoulders. "Let's dance," she said. The room in which they danced was panelled with long mirrors, and Margot could see herself in Garry's arms, his dark head only a few inches above her own. Once upon a time Charles' blond head had towered high above her, and she had gloried

in his strength and good looks. She wondered why she had ever let him go out of her life. No other man could match him. She had found that out in time to escape Bart.

And now he was going to marry Anne Ordway!

"When?" was the question she put to Garry.

"No one seems to know. Soon, I fancy."

"Where is she now?"

"On the Eastern Shore, with Vicky."

When supper was served, Margot sat at a little table with Garry, thinking. She was going to fight Anne Ordway for the possession of her lover. It would be a fight to the finish and she would win.

The next morning she drove her roadster to Annapolis and took the ferry across the bay. It was raining a little as she followed the road to the Hewitt farm, and the wind blew cool. But Margot cared nothing for wind and weather. As she went along she rehearsed what she was to say to Anne. If she lied a little, what harm?

She found Anne away. The colored maid who answered the door said they were expecting her at any moment. She had gone to Baltimore early that morning. The rest of the family was also away. A reunion on somebody's birthday.

Margot was glad that fate was playing into her hands. She would wait for Anne and see her alone. She sat on the porch and the maid brought her lemonade and crisp cookies.

The shadows lengthened and still Anne did not come. She had gone to Baltimore because of a letter from her mother. It had arrived on the preceding day, and when she had read it she had gone at once to Vicky. "It's about herself and David."

Vicky, in the garden cutting roses for the table, sat down on a rustic bench and motioned. Anne to sit beside her. "Read it to me, my darling."

Elinor had covered several pages with a sprawling script. "My darling child:

"In a few weeks I shall be free to marry David. But David is in financial straits and it makes things difficult. Your father has a mortgage on his property, and David is so proud that he has resolved to sell and pay off the mortgage."

"This means, my dear, that when we marry, David and I will have no roof over our heads, and that if we live on his income, we must go abroad to live decently."

"I have written your father and told him that. But he is hard. He says that I wanted to go with David, and so he gave me my freedom. But he will not finance us. And, indeed, I am afraid David would not let me take anything your father might offer."

"But David need never know, if your father gave me an allowance, that it was not my own. And what I want you to do is to go to Francis and ask him. He will do anything for you. And I am your mother, Anne. Oh, I know what you think of me. But I want to be happy, and I'll be happy with David."

When she had finished reading Anne said, "I have decided to ask Daddy, Vicky. But I want you to tell me whether you think I'm right or wrong."

"You must tell me first what made you decide to ask your father."

"Because, if Mother is poor, she will make David unhappy."

"Perhaps he deserves to be unhappy."

"I'm not sure. Somehow I feel that David is different from Mother. He loves her dearly, but he wouldn't have taken her because of his friendship for Daddy. But she made him."

Such dreadful wisdom for one so young! Yet Anne was right. David had done high-mindedly what Elinor had done falsely and unfairly.

"But she will go to him with a lie on her lips," Vicky said.

"No. Daddy must tell him that Mother can't be happy without money. I think he will do it."

Vicky said, "I wish you could keep out of it."

"So do I, but I can't. I shall telephone Daddy and go up tomorrow morning if he can see me."

Francis could and would. He was delighted. Anne must lunch with him. He was completely at her service for the day.

Anne, breakfasting early with the Hewitt family, was aware more than ever of the interdependence and cooperation of its members.

"If Charles and I have children," Anne told herself, "they shall live like this." It would be wonderful, she thought, to be a mother like Mrs. Hewitt. She had never thought it would be wonderful to be like Elinor.

Francis, welcoming his daughter with open arms, drove her to the country club, where he ordered a lavish luncheon for her, but limited himself to a green salad and a glass of dry sherry. "I am trying to drop ten pounds," he told her.

Anne, who had been somewhat softened by his welcome, hardened her heart. She was sorry he had no home, no wife, no child, but she wondered whether he really suffered for lack of these things or whether he weighed them in the balance with his diet, his club, his bank account, and found them wanting.

Francis, as he talked to her, was aware of her hardness. It added in a way to his regard for her. If Anne had wept in his arms she would have seemed to him something less than she was.

"She is what she is by the grace of God," he reflected. "She loves me, but she hates the things I've done. And I'm glad that she hates them."

So when Anne came to her plea for her mother he was ready to listen.

Anne minced no words. "I want you to talk to David."

"My dear child!"

"It's the only way to be honest."

"In the old days we would have shot each other at dawn."

"Why should you shoot him? I think he is fond of you, Daddy."

He stared at her. "How can he be, and steal my wife?"

"He didn't steal her. She went."

And Francis knew that it was true. Elinor had been the moving spirit and David, gallant and unhappy, had been unwilling to let her down.

(To Be Continued)

Tuberculosis claims the lives of nearly 40,000 young people every year between the ages of 15 and 45.

WOULD YOU GIVE

A PENNY

to stop that headache?

**M**OST people who use Dr. Miles Anti-Pain Pills say that one pill usually relieves their headaches. In the regular package, Dr. Miles Anti-Pain Pills cost one penny each. In the economy packages, one penny buys 1 1/4 pills.

### Why Don't You Try Dr. Miles Anti-Pain Pills?

They taste good, act promptly, do not upset the stomach, contain no opiates or laxative medicines.

You may be miles away from a drug store when you are suffering from a Headache, Neuralgia, or Muscular Aches and Pains. Why not get a package of Dr. Miles Anti-Pain Pills today and be prepared for emergencies?

Regular Package, 25 Pills, 25¢  
Economy Package, 125 Pills, \$1.00



DR. MILES ANTI-PAIN PILLS

# CHRISTMAS GIFT HEADQUARTERS

## for Men, Women and Children

- "Cara Nome" Toilet Powder a box ..... \$1.00
- "Adrienne" Combination Sets ..... \$2.25
- Heating Pads, size 9 in. by 12 in. .... \$1.95 up
- Monogram Bill Folds 49c to 98c
- "Cara Nome" Bath Sets . \$2.75
- "Cara Nome" Eau de Cologne Sets ..... \$1.75
- "Brite" Manicure Sets, only 50c
- "Adrienne" Matched Cosmetic Sets ..... \$1.00 and \$1.65

- "Kantleek" Electric Heating Pads ..... \$7.50
- Scout Flashlights 49c, 59c, 79c, 99c
- "Adrienne" Combination Sets ..... \$2.00
- Monogram Pen and Pencil Sets ..... \$5.00
- Monogram Fountain Pens ..... \$3.00



- Christmas Cards, folder assortment, 21 beautiful cards . 69c
- Decorated, Gift Wrapping Paper, a package ..... 10c
- Decorated, Sylvania Cellophane Wrapping ..... 10c
- "Cara Nome" Combination Sets ..... \$3.75
- "Cara Nome" Powder and Perfume, both for only \$2.00
- "Joan Manning" Chocolates, Christmas packages .. 50c lb.
- Christmas Card Folder Assortment, 22 folders .. 39c
- 14 Card Folder Assortment 19c

- Assortment of Seals, Cards, Tags ..... 5c
- "Brite" Manicure Set DeLuxe ..... \$2.95
- "Brite" Manicure Sets \$1.50
- Holly Wreaths ..... \$1.00
- Christmas Tree Light Set, 8-light set ..... 69c
- Stationery, quilted box Sets ..... \$1.00

### "Adrienne" Combination Sets

Consists of "Adrienne" Face Powder, Sachet, Lipstick, Rouge, Double Compact, one-fourth ounce Perfume and Talcum. The whole set for only

\$5.00

### NEW, DIFFERENT, PRACTICAL Gift Candy Packages BY "GALES"

- "Gales" Sycamore Treasure Chest, with candy ..... \$2.00
- "Gales" Decorated Serving Bowl, with candy ..... \$3.00

### Excellent Selection of Pipes

All Kinds of Cigars in Holiday Wrappings

### "Stag" Shaving Sets

- "Stag" Shaving Sets ..... \$1.49
- "Stag" Shaving Sets, 3-pcs. 79c and \$1.00

Special Tobacco Blends, gift wrapped

All Brands of Cigarettes in Holiday Wrappings

Cigarette Lighters for Him or Her

A Wide Selection of Gift Novelties

Cigarette Cases for Him or Her

Tree Decorations at Lowest Prices

AT

# B. & T. Drug Company

"The Rexall Store"

SPARTA,

NORTH CAROLINA

Licensed

Funeral Directors

and Embalmers

Reins-Sturdivant

Funeral Home

Sparta, North Carolina

## CAN YOU IMAGINE!



CAN YOU IMAGINE—the renewed courage of a Penns Grove, N.J., man who, after spending \$10,000 in useless treatments and resigning a \$9,000 position because of ill health, got rid of his trouble with a few bottles of BISMAREX!

Get BISMAREX At  
**B. & T. DRUG CO**  
"The Rexall Store"  
SPARTA, N. C.