##  <br> \section*{Bellefonte, Pa, August 27, 1926.}

 Whaterer isWhaterer is is is unjus
wis






## 

## reality Just as quietly yand mysteriously as Helen Temnant had disappeared from  <br>  Mhher frock of two vear sezo wa faintly antedated and rustr-ooking the sene itealf was set exactly as be fore-a iovely pastel-tinted room with       But now- four people glancing idly up to notet that where there fad been    the floor! <br>   



 apparition casually. "Torrested always
fas a lad who liked his collar loosen-
ed-if your finger wis
 settle and stood before them, reassur
ingly ocrporeal, indisputably alive.
Wainghe. the telephone instrument-A Alice
Wainrigh with her hand clutchin at
her husbands hooulder stayed their
purnose instinctively at purpose instinctively
Helen Tennant's eyes.
"What in the world
ning to do?" she dema
ning to do?" she demanded you plan-
"Telephone your step-father," stam-
mered Wainright. He was her suls.
 do my own 'risis from thennant, "read "rynk
you!", Her nostrils, faintly dilating
picked Her picked up some sudden scent, apar,
ently, that pleased her utterly., Do $\overline{\text { In }}$
smell coffee ? she questioned, and
stated started for the dining-room.
Giibbering like an imbecie, Lois
Whatton jumped up and ran to pour
it for her. Still ger. gasping with astonishment
and shock, Wainiright and his wife
went stumbling after them Perching harself nonchalantly on
the arm of ahair, Helen Tennant
took the proffered cup and bent her lips with palpable satisfaction.
"Oh," she seaid, "coco may be a
frivolity and tea, litle more than a
subterfuge, but coffee is ertain subterfuge, but coffie is certainly
one of the realities."
the healities?
the hall. Vaguen gasped a voice framed in the doom-
way, cluthing desperately at doorthe hall. Vaguely framed in the door-
way, cluthing desperately at door-
jamb, loomed Bradences towering fig-
ure.
Yearningly, Lois Wharton reached
a suaccoring hand to to him, and drew it
sharplty inack again with, a purely ner-
vous titter of self-w.onscion
 nant, and drained her steaming cup.
"Where-where it the world have
you been, Helen?" demanded Bra"Away," glowed Helen. Thus viv-
idly might she have boasted, France,
Spain-some far, strange country of
 as she stammered, she took a crush-
ed, filmy fold of the farbic in her
hand and twittered it through her
fingers.
 know, lioked rather nice, till I saw
you and Lois.
"Oh, no, no, not that!" babbled AI-


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 and





 he cried out triumphantly, "it is jus
exacty two years ano tonight that
you went away! This is the second Once again the girl on the arm of
the chair looked just a little bit sur-
prised prised.
Why, of course, it's just two year
ago tonight that I went away!" sh
said
sould have second anniverary;
would have come back for the would have come back for the thy
inst
one, she added suddenly, with a fain
ficker of
ficker amusement, "except that You see, I happened to be extraorod
narily buys with something else!
Like the mirth of a child hes laug Like the mirth
rang out suddenl
"You were
Wainright, "in the corner of the set
tle." "No," corrected Helen Tennant,
perfectly gravely, "it was in the oth-
er coner!" "I - I wore a dark blue dress," bab
bede Alice Wainright.t.
Very dark blue," acquiesced Hel "I had dust knocked over a vase of
roses." stammered Bradence.
"A bow of roses, "orreet Helen
"It was my deal." faltered Lois.
"Your deal,", conceded Helenis.
It was then, for the first time, that all thas shon, for the first time, tha
amazing incident ghostiness of the
away from eevent to dro away from everybody like a clammy
clok, leaving only the facile, warm-
blooded undergarment of blooded undergarment of old friend
ship or at least of old association
waiting to wrap itself in all tender
ness and mercifulsess ness and mercifulness around such
stark or naked facts as had best be
kent from the world At any cost, a
any price, they had all dan to any price, the whad all del deiny cost, as a
by a
before the intutition, thi eerie girl
befor
frighted frighted, driven back upon herself
unti1 the truth itself were told, and
being told, was ready to be acted upon. Helten dear, how did you go?"
implored Alice Wainright. Her arms were round the girl as she asked it
"Throuh the celing? Through the
floor? Out the window?
 stalked unashamed appoa, intly. at least
sToward the garden, or toward the
sea?" insisted Wainright. Through the French windows, to
ward the sea," siad Helen Tennant.
"Yes, but, Helen-" protested Bra
dence. A little frow pol dence. A little frown showed sudden
lyon his forehed. "Yes, but, Helen
I sat directly facing the French win
dows the dows that open toward the sea. Ywn
couldnnt possing have siliped hat
way without my seeing you, way without my seing you.",
Absolutely without guaile, yet with
certain half-humorus sort of shrewd ness, the girl turned and looked a
him.
"You seem to forget, Torrey," she
said, "that on that night aid, "that on that night, as tonight
it was Loos Whaton who was sithing
opposite you, and already, aven then opposite you, and already, even then
hen little head was beginning to boloci
out various larger things from your
horizon," "Yes, but, Helen, why did you go?"
interupted lalice Wainright, just
bit hectically. oit hectically.
"Iene beause I was tired," said
Hen Tennant, quite simply. "Tired? You?", "Basped wou liked your work
"But you said you
so much," fluttered Lois Wharton. "Just those few howrs every morn-
ing ast the library?" puzzed Alice
Wainright; "and you certainly didn't need to do even that unless you really
wanted to Surely, your step-father
with his great income and his posiVery slowly, very softly, Helen
ennant's hand went creeping up to Cennant's hand went creeping up to
her forenead, brushed a bight strand
of hair away from her eyesh
"it it it was play thes that I was tired
of," she said.
 "Tennes, ${ }^{\text {golf, }}$, baid Helen Tennant
whole gamut. Tired of house parties, the


