## The Serpent in Eden $* * *$ By awENDOLEN overton



 view of life. If for instange, Miss Bab-
bington had been wwlling to consider
Ferrier's case impersonally, Ferrier's case impersonatly, in the ligh
of the triumph of environment over heredity, both she nid Ferifer would
probably have been very much better orf-or even hand she realizect that It
was primarily her own fanlt, in any
She would have married him and
have goue west with him when he
wanted her to go. He urged as much. Fate and physicians conspired together To send him to the Jumping-off place;
the least she could do woutd be to goo
along, he said. But Miss Babbington was, cast in the same mold as that
queen who ended upon the gullotine without her necessaire. She urgeed the
essentality of a trouseau Ferrier
sidd things about olothes in Feneral
hat not himself could have excosed-things
that no wooman might hear unmoved.
A final quarret threatened, but it end-
ed in a
in compromise. Ferrier would goto the Pacific const,
as he had been bid, and the troussau
being completed, Miss Babbington
siond tole thoula are alogg her mother and it
and marry him there. It would be bemewhat unconventional, but Cali
some
tornit itself wast
 more than her insistence upon the
troussean would ceat one no versed in
the workings of the femjnine mind to
believe.
$\qquad$

 and inetly good" Hisscent-draggets sens
of duty was coming to life again, and
he felt that he shoutd feel It to be so There followed a pause. She was wal
ing to hear the rest, and Ferrier was wondering what would be the bes
thing. In the long ron, that he could do
how he could with he could come out of it all, ne
whing oolss-he had no hope
that-but with the smaliest tatter hred of decency.
He turned upon her that unflinchin
aze attributed by the moralist to the conscience elear. "There will be
friend of mine here this afternoon, Triend of mine here th
said. He stopped.
"Yes," muren "Ies, murmured Eve.
"I may ns well tell you, I suppose,
onid Ferrier, "that she is the girl t
whom I nmengaged." She rose slowly up from the sea
shd stod tooking at him without
and
 $\because$

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