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W. A. HENNEY.

A Hopeless Love.

"Tomorrow!"
There was so much incredulous, passionate pain in the man's voice that even haughty Lenore Glenco turned a little pale; yet other men—prouder men—who had conquered fortune and wrung laurels from the reluctant hand of fame, had bent as low before her beauty and her power as did this struggling artist, this stranger whom her father had employed to paint her in all her languid loveliness.

"Tomorrow!" he said once more with working lips. "I did not know it—I did not dream it. Tomorrow."
"You seem very much surprised, Herr Griswold," she said slowly in chill, musical accents. "Yet I fancy most of the people who have heard of me know that on the morrow, I become a bride. I am glad the portrait is finished; I could not give another sitting, and I wished my father to have this reminder of me. You have made of it a marvelous likeness, albeit a trifle flattering. I will send my father to you and now will bid you farewell."
She allowed the velvet to fall and hide the portrait and with a slight inclination of her stately, sunny head turned away.

But she had not gone half a dozen steps when the young man darted before her and flung himself on his knees at her feet, lifting a face as white as sea foam to the light that came redly in from the western window.

"Oh, do not leave me so! I know my presumption, my madness, but listen: let me say it once in words—I have told you in a hundred ways unproved—I love you—I love you!"

The eyes of the beautiful girl fairly flashed, then grew cruelly cold and hard as blue steel.

"Unreprieved!" she said haughtily. "Do you know why, sir painter? Because we do not reprove what we do not deign to notice. What madness has made you forget that I am the daughter of Baron Glenco, the affianced of the Marquis Le Noir, while you—you have been employed by my father to but paint me, as you have done? Rise, Herr Griswold, or at least suffer me to pass."

"Oh, for the love of pity, leave with me but a touch of your hand—but a single word!" he prayed. "I know how true it all is that you have said, but I am mad—mad! And tomorrow you become a bride! Oh, bend to me once. Lay your hand even on my hair, and I will forever bless you! I am dying of my love!"

But the woman before him, held there by the hands fastened in her velvet dress, did not soften, did not bend. Instead a slow, angry, haughty color flushed her flawless face.

"You are mad!" she said coldly, scornfully, drawing her robes from his tremulous hands and erecting her golden head with a more than human pride. "I bend to you! I lay my hand in yours! Let me again remind you I am a noble's daughter, and royal blood is in my veins. You have surely forgotten that I am not a peasant, to whom your love would be welcome and your emotion a compliment."

"Hear me! Say one kindly word to prove that you are human and can feel for me, as even a queen might feel for one who loved her without hope! Because the same God created us! Spare me your scorn!" he prayed agonizedly.

But she drew beyond the reach of his outstretched hands, turned in the warm sunset glow and went, slowly, languidly, proudly, leaving him there alone in the magnificent light of the dying day prone, as he had flung himself, face downward, on the polished oaken floor, quivering, shuddering, stricken unto death almost by the scorn she had flung from her eyes upon him.

"Has the brush of the artist done you justice?" asked the marquis fondly. "Nay, I know it has not! An inspiration would have to come for that—the divine inspiration of a more than human love."

A few moments the lovers paused in
(Continued on other side.)

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