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The Thirteenth Commandment

THANKS TO DUANE, DAPHNE GETS THE CHANCE TO BE-COME AN ACTRESS-IF SHE CAN MAKE GOOD.

Synopsis .- Clay Wimburn, a young New Yorker on a visit to Cleveland, meets pretty Daphne Kip, whose brother is in the same office with Clay in Wall street. After a whirlwind courtship they become engaged. Clay buys an engagement ring on credit and returns to New York. Daphne agrees to an early marriage, and after extracting from her money-worried father what she regards as a sufficient sum of money for the purpose she goes to New York with her mother to buy her trousseau. Daphne's brother, Bayard, has just married and left for Europe with his bride, Leila. Daphne and her mother install themselves in Bayard's flat. Wimburn introduces Daphne and her mother to luxurious New York life. Daphne meets Tom Duane, man-about-town, who seems greatly attracted to her. Daphne accidentally discovers that Clay is penniless, except for his salary. Baynard and his wife return to New York unexpectedly. The three women set out on a shopping excursion and the two younger women buy expensive gowns, having them charged to Bayard. Bayard is furious over the expense, seeing hard times ahead. Daphne, indignant, declares she will earn her own living and breaks her engagement with Clay.

CHAPTER IX.

Daphne bent her head so quickly that his pressed lips touched her hair. She flung backward and thrust him away and broke from his hold.

"Agh!" she groaned. "I suppose I deserve the insult-for trusting you." "I didn't intend it for an insult."

He followed her with pleading arms. She backed away and found herself

in a corner, flushed, furious, at bay. "How dare you?" she stormed, and

thought with nausea how often the phrase had been used and with what hypocrisy.

It seemed to fall familiarly on his ear, for he laughed comfortably. "How can I help it?"

"If you touch me I'll-I'll hit you." He paused, stared deep into her ayes. "Do you mean it?"

"Of course I mean it." "I'm sorry," he sighed. "But won't

you let me explain?" "You don't have to. It's all my

fault for inviting you here." "Oh, no, I beg you not to think that

I'm such a cad." "Please go !"

"All right!" he murmured, and left the room

She heard his stick rattle as he took it from the umbrella jar. She thought: "There goes my opportunity-my career! Well, let it go! It wasn't worth

know-but there is a tradition that every woman expects every man she meets to offer her an insult-that's the technical term-as soon as they are alone.

false it is, or how true; no man can

"That feeling is what women are going to run into every time they try to force their way into business. It will die out, I suppose, to a certain extent, as you crowd into our field. It will be one of the last privileges you'll lose. You're already permitted to stand up in street cars and go out after dark alone. By and by you will have to make your advances to the men yourselves in the frankest manner, instead of subtly as now."

Daphne broke in coldly, "That will be a very welcome day to most of us." Somehow it did not sound convincing to her. There was grave conviction, however, in his response:

"It will be a mighty welcome day to us poor men, Miss Kip. For most men haven't the faintest desire to spoon with women. It's hard enough for some of them to keep their own and say: "Well, I'll leave you two to- for all the attention he paid her. She

ressed. Then there's another thingif I'm not boring you-I haven't made Miss Kip is going to be." as long a speech since I was a school-

Gladiators.' " "Go on, please," said Daphne. "A floor as he talked. His path kept of Reben's stage managers, a worried,

had said that he might have a chance to place her at once if she could come to his office without delay.

Opportunity bouncing out at her like a jack-in-the-box alarmed her. But she faced it pluckily. She put on her hat with trembling hands and went down in the elevator with Duane. They went up in an elevator at one

side of the lobby of the theater and stepped out at Reben's office door. A number of somber and despondent persons of a theatrical complexion were waiting there also, the wretched Lazaruses of art.

Duane spoke to a respectful office boy, who disappeared through a door and returned to beckon him in. With heart bounding high and bubbling at her throat Daphne entered the theatrical world by one of its most gilded portals.

a still more ornate stenographer with might come any day." a nod as, he rose to greet Duane.

Duane did the honors: "Mr. Reben, I want to present you to Miss Kip, Miss Daphne Kip."

Reben greeted her with suavity and I work it the more money I make. his eyes were even more enthusiastic The more you earn the more I make. than his words. Daphne was at her I'd like to pay you ten thousand a superlative degree and anxiety gave week." her a wistfulness that was appealing to Reben. Women's charms and wist- I'll try." fulnesses made up a large part of his wares in trade.

"Have you had any experience?" "None."

"Studied elocution?"

"Never. I never spoke a piece in my life."

"Good! Amateur theatricals?" "Never. I never seemed to care for them.

"Better yet !- What makes you think ou want to act now?"

"Money. I want to earn money get rich.

"I see," said Reben, and fell into a profound meditation, studying Daphne searchingly. Duane seized the opportunity to rise

sweethearts and wives sufficiently ca- gether to talk terms. It would be in- feit rather ungaliantly ignored. Still, He had no sooner gone than Reben's at her word.

boy and recited 'Spartacus to the manner changed slightly and Daphne's Before the contracts were ready

hearing a man tell the truth about | walls in Poe's story.

most as bitter in opposition as Mrs. Kip had been, but from quite another motive. Leila had aristocratic im-Copyright by Harper & Brothers pulses and looked forward to social splendors. She would gain no help from the fact that her husband's sister was a theatrical struggler. "You bet-er-indeed I do. How Daphne escaped an odious battle often does an understudy play?" with her by referring to the need of

rescue his child. She always called on

him in an emergency and he always

Lella came home eventually full of

gossip and triumph. Her Dutilh gown

had made a tremendous success; the other women wanted to murder her.

Mrs. Kip broke in on her chronicles

with the dismal announcement of

Daphne's new insanity. Leila was al-

close study, and retreated into her

She stayed there, repeating her lines

all-just "How do you do?" But she

own room, locking her mother out.

responded.

"As rarely as possible." Daphne's joy turned to lead. Reben added: "But we don't pay by

By

RUPERT HUGHES

performances. I'll pay you twentyover and over and trying to remember five a week. You wanted money, the action that went with them as There's a little of it for a start. Do

Miss Kemble had played it. She had you want it?" a quick memory, but the intonation of "Will it lead to anything better?" the lines gave her extraordinary diffi-"It might." culty. "Am I to understudy Miss Kemble?" She remembered one of Miss Kem-"Yes, and all the other women

ble's most delicious effects. She came on the stage unannounced and, paus-"And when do you suppose I'll get a chance to play Miss Kemble's part? ing in the doorway, smiled whimsically and said, "How do you do?" That was

Soon?" "Never, I hope." "That's encouraging !"

"If Miss Kemble fell ill we'd ordinarily refund the money, because she's the star. But sometimes we might

The great Reben sat bulkily behind have to give a performance at short an ornate table-desk and dismissed notice. Chances in the other parts

roles.

"And you'll give me a better chance when you can?" "Indeed I will. If you have the gift,

the sooner I find it out and the harder

"I'd like to have you. All right,

He pressed a button on his desk once, then twice. The office boy appeared, followed by the stenographer. Reben said to the boy: "Is Mr. Batterson here? Send him to me." To the stenographer he said: "Fill out a contract for Miss Kip-Miss- What's the first name? Miss Daphne Kip.

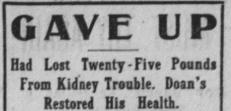
Reben motioned her absently to her chair and said, rather for Duane's sake than for hers, she felt: "Sit down, won't you, till the contracts

The Next Day Batterson Telephoned Her That He Had Called a Rehearsal With the Company.

uttered it so deliciously that a ripple of joy ran through the audience. delicate for me to know just how rich she had asked to be treated on a Daphne tried to master the trick of it, business basis. He was taking her but with no success. She said "How

do you do?" in dozens of ways, with no result except to render the phrases

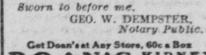
Daphne flung down the part she was woman doesn't often get the chance slowly closing in around her like the emotional little man, worn to shreds studying and flung away ambition, and cent out to tell the family that she A PAR



3.

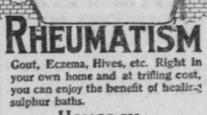
Kestored fils field. J. B. Ragless, carpenter. 210 W. 60th St., Chicago, III., says: "My back gave out completely and I had to quit work, I could hardly endure the pain in my back and nights I tossed and turned, unable to sleep. Often in the morn-ing my back was as stiff as a board, so that I couldn't stoop to dress myself. When I did manage to bend over, everything before me turned black. My bead seemed to be whirling and some whirling and some-times I was so dizzy I had to grasp something to keep from falling. The kidney secretions were irregular in pas-

A.M Mr. Ragless sage, getting me up at **Hr. Rafless** night and they burned cruelly. I lost my appetite, was weak and listless and down twenty-five pounds in After I had given up hope weight. I was persuaded to use Doan's Kid-ney Pills and they cured me. Soon after, I passed an examination for life insurance and I'm glad to say my cure has lasted."





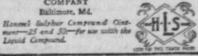
A. A





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come? and pardon me if I-"

He finished the phrase by the deed. The office routine went on and Daphne might have been the chair she sat in.

courage vanished. Reben paced the Mr. Batterson appeared. He was one meaningless gibberish.

the price !"

Duane appeared at the door again to say: "Oh, by the way, that introduction to Mr. Reben. Do you still

want it?" "No, thank you, not from you. Goodby."

his mind, entered the room and sat if it were his house.

"Miss Kip, may I say one word to That handshake itself is a kind of inyou? I don't pretend to understand vestigation of character. They learn you women people. I'm not sure now just how sincere you are, just how prejudices as soon as they can. much of a ninny you may think me for being rebuffed so easily. Experience he is apt to be thrown with a good is no guide. But-well-anyway- deal he is apt to say, 'What sort is hardly any man that would even man most about having to do business bother a woman unwilling to be both- with a woman is the fear that he will ered if he could only be certain that either compromise her or disappoint he was really bothering her. Do I her. That's the first problem to get make myself clear?"

"Not in the least."

"Well, then, I give up. But I must you want to earn money. If you do,



"And May I Arrange for You to Meet Reben?"

on the stage or in any other business, feel it their duty to try to kiss you anxious to get a job." at the first opportunity. It's not only because you are so pretty, for I really one." believe the homelest girls get the

"You're awfully kind," she said, and most kisses. Parhaps it's because ied him to the telephone. they're not so particular-but, any-way, it's not because men are villains to listen, and went back into the liv-to appear in public. She's quitting me

that they try to kiss women, but be- ing room of the apartment. There this week for a small part in a road Kip retired to her room to write an cause they're obliging. There is an Duane joined her in a few moments company. You can have her place if urgent telegram to her husband deold superstillion-1 don't know how with the terrifying news that Reben you want it. Do you?"

these things." Her sarcasm chilled him a little, but he went on:

club or elsewhere they shake hands. very. Let me see your eyes !"

each other's politics and religion and "So when a man meets a woman

that it was blurred in her vision. to put them to the test. out of the way; and there's nothing

easier for a woman to do than to convince a man that she doesn't want him leave you a bit of advice. You say to try to flirt with her-if she doesn't." Daphne cried, "In heaven's name, tell me how it's done."

"The way to convince him is to be convinced yourself. If you're sincere somewhere else." he'll' know it."

"But I was sincere with you, and you didn't know it."

did-I think-and now that's what I'm I meant no harm." driving at all this long while. If you're She went on with the Duane system going into business competition with of treatment: "I know you didn't. You men, play fair. Every now and then meant to be polite, but you don't have one of them, as soon as he finds him- to be so polite to me. I don't expect self alone with you, will be polite it and I don't like it."

enough to insult you. But the average "All right, all right !" Reben growled, man will let you alone if you'll let pacing the floor again, but in a conhim alone. Suppose he does make a stantly receding path. He did not feel besmirched, but just take it as rassed.

derstand you perfectly, but you needn't ing: "I suppose this means that you her toes. bother,' or something like that, and don't want me to work for you. It's say it honestly, the rest would be plain true, then, what they say about the sailing. stage."

"And now, if you'll forgive me for talking your arm off and if you'll prove I never see most of my people except as well as the best of them. never to kiss you or try to till-till never spoken to three-quarters of 'em. Lella had gone from that tea party you ask me to."

comradeship. "And may I arrange for you to meet

Reben?"

"I hate to ask you now. I've no you will meet a lot of men who will right to trouble you. But I'm terribly "And I'm terribly anxious to get you

unsel Reben said: "The general understudy of the Kemble company has

every time you see me."

with his task of stimulatin "You look like Miss Kemble," he recting the emotions by which others agreed with them.

said. "You have somewhat the same earned their wages and fame. "I just want to say this-it's an old play. That may be your line. I can't and explained her new office. Batter. phoned that he could not get home for man's advice to a young woman go- tell. Of course I don't know how well son seemed none too well pleased with dinner. He would not be home in

for a job he brings references, and Kemble is great, but she comes of an of stage work to the last degree. He he had promised, He bowed farewell, then changed they are investigated; or he answers old theatrical family. Of course you had found it hard enough to make the down, and motioned her to a seat as trial. Or when two men meet in a for you are very beautiful, Miss Kip, they must be read and keep on read- come and take her somewhere.

going to hire her eyes, but she looked unwelcome labor. up cravenly, for the burly satrap was

the back of it. His left hand was grad- heavenward in his swift impatience. band. ually enveloping hers. It was a fat, He explained them with a vinegary what I wanted to say is this-there is she?' But the thing that annoys a hot hand, and his face was so close gentleness. He talked to her of the Better all the difficulties and heartcanons of interpretation. He walked

> words. She controlled herself enough for her again and again and yet again. But somehow he could not teach her.

She pretended to look coldly into He tried everything but beating Reben's face, and she said, with a her. He flattered her, wheedled her, brave show of calm: "Mr. Reben, I parodied, satirized, rebuked her, and didn't come here to flirt with you and occasionally he cursed her. She did her that he had called a rehearsal don't intend to. I came here for a not rebel even against his profanity, job as an actress. If this sort of thing because she had no confidence in heris a necessary part of the job I'll go self to support her resistance. She

felt that she was far worse than he Reben backed away and stared at said she was when he said she was street clothes. Under the bright lights her. He was rendered foolish by her worst. She used all her funds of res-"I didn't know it at first, but I soon rebuff and he stammered, "Why, I- olution in keeping from throwing down the part and running away in tears. She had none left for asserting her

right to politeness. Once Daphne was out in the street

again and released from the ordeal of pleasing Batterson, youth and ambition brought hope back again. Broadway at twilight was athrob with enthusiasm and she caught zest from the mistaken advance, if you could be speak. He felt that he had made a crowds. She was going home to study, sensible enough not to get mad, not to fool of himself, and he was embar- carrying her little set of textbooks like a schoolgirl. But she felt the wings

a matter of course and say frankly: Daphne was so frightened with her of conquest fledging at her ankles or No, thanks, I'm not interested. I un- success that she got to her feet, say- the wheel of fortune spinning under

Her very first effort had succeeded. She was a woman with a salary. She would be no longer a parasite on any

"Nonsense! Of course not! Rot! man. She had a career and a business it by letting me help you, I'll promise at rehearsals or performances. I've Her mother was at home alone.

If you want a job you can have it, and to another to which Mrs. Kip was not Daphne laughed refreshedly at his no concessions are necessary. You invited. Daphne's mother greeted her mpudence, and he laughed, as well as don't have to make love to me. You with relief. She told her news with a he might. And they shook hands with make love to the audience, and if you gush of enthusiasm. It left Mrs. Kip can capture that you can slap my face | cold, very cold.

She was a pious, church-going wom-Daphne was astounded. She was an, Mrs. Kip. She had always looked engaged! She was exultant and upon the theater as a training school thrilled with gratitude to Duane for for the still lower regions. She went introducing her to this marvelous op- to plays occasionally, but usually with portunity and for the wisdom of his a feeling of dissipation and worldliness. Besides it was one thing to see

plays and another to act them. Daphne tried to reason her mother out of her backwoods prejudices, but she only frightened her the more. Mrs.

She was confronted by Leila in a temperament. You like her style of Reben introduced him to Daphne role of despair. Bayard had tele-

ing into business: when a man asks you can act. Perhaps you never could. the news that Daphne was ignorant time to take Leila to the theater as Leila was in a frenzy. She had notha lot of questions, and he is given a have one great capital-your beauty; experienced actors read their lines as ing to do but wait for her man to

ing them so. To teach this dramatic Daphne understood the tragedy of the He had a right to ask if he were infant how to walk and talk was an modern wife: dowered with freedom, pampered with amusements, deprived He took Daphne into his office and of the blessing of toll, unaccustomed leaning over her. His left hand was pulled out a set of parts. When she to seraglian torpor, she must yet wait on the arm of the chair, his right on stumbled over them he cast his eyes on the whims or necessities of her hus-

Daphne reconsidered her decisions. aches of the actress-trade than this Then she remembered Duane's through her scenes and spoke her lines prison loafing of wifely existence. She had something to do.

CHAPTER X.

The next day Batterson telephoned with the company. Daphne went to the theater in terror. The stage looked utterly forlorn with the actors and actresses standing about in their with the people made up and the audience in full bloom, like a vast garden, there would be impersonality and stimulation; but the present scene was as doleful as the funeral of an unpopular man.

Courage was largely a matter of her superself forcing her reluctant feet forward. A soldier ordered to leave a bombproof shelter for an advance, a playground of shrapnel, has just the struggle with his vaso-motor system that Daphne had with hers.

With the kindliest smile an amiable wolf ever wore Batterson invited the fluttering lamb to come to the stream and drink. Daphne came forward in

"Ladies and gentlemen-Miss Kip, our new understudy. Give her all the

Miss Kemble had graciously chosen to be present for that purpose, though the result was only to increase Daphne's embarrassment. An imitation in the presence of the living model was

Daphne's hopes of becoming a great actress receive a rude him in the end.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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shock, but she is given a chance to show what she can do, and again it is Duane to whom she owes the chance. She is afraid of the obligation under which she is placed, but Duane assures her that she can repay

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a trance and heard Batterson say:

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