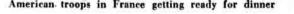


From a treetop this boy had been





ins? Hush's: Never-never-as God vincessed. "One kiss, Marishka....." The struggled free and struck him with her elenched fist furiously. full in the ness, and then ran to the window, as he struggled the bard trembling, but full of defiance. The suddenness of the affair and its culmination had driven her barded her, breathing hard, trembling, the affair and its culmination had driven her barded her, breathing hard, trembling, the affair and its culmination had driven her barded her, breathing hard, trembling, the affair and its culmination had driven her barded her, breathing hard, the struck her barded his face. "Tou have struck me." he muttered. And then, with a shrug. "That was not a breat tap. Countess Strahn!." "Be could not speak for very terror of the consequences of the encounter, but blood watching him narrowly, one hand breathing her her beside her. "Well," he asked presently, "are you "Bou-you insulted me." she gasped. "Tou-you insulted me." she gasped.

ou-you insulted me," she gasped. Thatever I have done, you have re-me." he multered. gianced out of the window into the yold beneath.

ack void beneath. "I am not afraid to die. Herr orig." She said. He caught the meaning of her glance her poins by the window ledge, and

orits?" she said. He caught the meaning of her glance ad her poise by the window ledge, and the significance sobered him instantly. I drew back from her two or three loss and leaned heavily against an then chair. "Am I so repellent to you as that?" whispered.

Am I so repellent to you as that?" "In ligs-are mine," she said proudly. "In ligs-are mine," she said proudly. "In graze flickered and fell before the the graze flickered and fell before the the resolve that he read in her face. And her courage enthralled him. "Here Gott" he muttered, "you have never been so beautiful as now, Ma-ters." The did not reply or move, but only whiched him steadily. "He paced the floor stiffly, his hands build him, struggling for his self-con-rel. And the better instinct in him, the art of him that had made life possible of him that had made life possible of him that had made life possible of the prishka at Schloss Szolnok, was

A strictly at Schloss Saturda. "A kiss means much or little," he said usily at last. "To me the consecta-tion of a love which has leaped the ands of mere platitude. A woman of a training perhaps cannot grasp the sty of my unconvention. I have not you no harm. But that you should misunderstood...!"

hisunderstood—!" thing only I understand—that ave violated the hospitality of Szolnok."

ber of you—" ls true. Was your kindness, your y, your consideration but the to that end? I can never believe u again."

you, mean that?"

a plty." the truth, Fear and affection

# CHAPTER XXV

## The Rift in the Rock

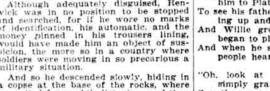
RENWICK in his borrowed e, strode forth before dawn. age, strode forth before dawn, hing a spot where the Valley into the gorge and marked outline of Schloss Szolnok the lightening east, slowly he rugged slope of the moun-his left which faced it. He spend the morning in a study proaches to the castle, and if where some means by which imapect it unobserved at closer it unobserved at found him perci

ing rapidly to the northward into the pass. Renwick knew that the northern end of the pass was already strongly-guarded, for his host had old him that many soldiers had gone through during the weeks before; but the sight of these hurrying men, the shrouded guns which lumbered amid them, and the long line of motortrucks and wagons which fol-lowed, gave Renwick a notion that events of military importance were pend-ing in the Galician plain beyond. He tried to form some idea of the number of men that passed. A regiment—two, three, four—artillery—three batteries at least. For an hour or more they passed, and then at last, silence and solitude.

Although adequately disguised, Ren-

Military situation. And so he descended slowly, hiding in a copse at the base of the rocks, where he waited for a while listening, and then peered cautiously out. Then matching his footsteps to those of the soldiers, he crossed the road obliquely and plunged through the bushes down over the rocks to the bed of the Dukla, where he waited and listened again, crossing the stream

and listened again, crossing the stream at last by a failen tree and reaching



The same has the same has an the bards of huber bards of

That so. Said Balky Sam, Jumping of mine deserves all the abuse he gets. "How will you grant his wishes?" "When I arrived where the mess outfit a bit like me." "When I arrived where the mess outfit as that is the mess of the boys at the front. Lieutenant Eilett and Private McCarthy feit was located, I needed help to carry the thew have to be boys at the front. Lieutenant Eilett and Private McCarthy feit as that I'll take the place of the clown." explained Billy. "You'll become countess Alice, Balky Sam. "We can believe the tricks of Circus Mike." "You'll become countess Alice, Balky Sam. "We can believe the way stations (the shell holes) and believe me, those twenty-three lads in the first-line trench were mighty glad to get the chow. But I'll holes and believes of lads America is sending against the Hun, and in view of his fact, I am certain that the Kaiser has no more chance of winning this war than Charley Chaplin has of becoming the backs and dog into them with the there already trunt in the the railroad station. Billy Goat and Johnny Bull joined the more chance of sound of a wild "hullabaloo in the forest. With a breaking of branches, Circus Mike, Nanny Goat and Boston Biue came dashing through the bushes trying to escape the force its basher peaks. "Woodpeckers and King Birds that clunt of their backs and dug into them with sharp beaks. "Here they are," shrieked General "Woodpeckers and King Birds that clunt of the boche batteries began a terile bombardment, sending shead occurred two or three times, and they were verified the next night when some French soldiers bagged a they were verified the next night when some French soldiers bagged a they were verified the next night when some French soldiers bagged a they were verified the next night wend they are in the wood they were verified the next night wend they were verified the next night wend they were verified the next night wend

(Tomorrow will be told how Peggy and Billy Belgium pay their first visit to the mysterious behind-the-

rifie bombardment, sending shells scream-ing to a spot in our rear. Our suspicions were aroused after this thing had occurred two or three times, and they were verified the next night when some French soldiers bagged a German spy over back of us in the wood. The spy was a mere boy, and how he got back of our lines nobody knows. scenes region of the circus.)

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-The Passing Show

Her ladyship (after making another of her regular and extensive purchases of "comforts" for the men in the trenches, cheerfully)-If this fearful strain and bustle goes on much longer I'll be only fit for a padded cell.

Expansive Shoekeeper (admiringly)-Well, my lady, I'm sure you'll deserve one.

"CAP" STUBBS—"Cap" Comes Into His Own Again By EDWINA - - -- - --2--:-..... - . -. ... .... - .-.... FER CAP -THIS ANT WEAR THIS SUIT 'CAP"! TAP"! C'M ON' - ANY BODY FIGHT C'M ON FEEL MELL YOU'RE NOT MESE AWFUL THINGS ANY MORE LOOM NICE FOR ONCE MORE LINE MYSELF ANYWAYS HE'S GONNA CALL G'WAN' N YOUR LIFE! R)

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