



# ELUSIVE ISABEL

by JACQUES FUTRELLE

ILLUSTRATIONS by M.G. KETNER

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## SYNOPSIS.

Count di Rosini, the Italian ambassador, is at dinner with diplomats when a messenger summons him to the embassy, where a beautiful young woman asks for a ticket to the embassy ball. The ticket is made out in the name of Miss Isabel Thorne. Chief Campbell of the secret service, and Mr. Grimm, his head detective, are warned that a plot is brewing in Washington, and Grimm goes to the state hall for information. His attention is called to Miss Isabel Thorne, who with her companion, disappears. A short time later, the head of the Italian legation, is found wounded. Grimm is assured Miss Thorne did it; he visits her, demanding knowledge of the affair, and arrests Pietro Petrosini. Miss Thorne visits an old bomb-maker and they discuss a wonderful experiment. Fifty thousand dollars is stolen from the office of Senator Rodriguez, the minister from Venezuela, and while detectives are investigating the robbery Miss Thorne appears as a guest of the legation. Grimm accuses her of the theft and threatens her with deportation.

## CHAPTER XI.—(Continued.)

"But if I am innocent?" she protested.

"You must prove it," continued Mr. Grimm mercilessly. "Personally, I am convinced, and Count di Rosini has practically assured me that—"

"It's unjust!" she interrupted passionately. "It's—it's—you have proved nothing. It's unheard of! It's beyond!"

Suddenly she became silent. A minute, two minutes, three minutes passed; Mr. Grimm waited patiently. "Will you give me time and opportunity to prove my innocence?" she demanded finally. "And if I do convince you—"

"I should be delighted to believe that I have made a mistake," Mr. Grimm assured her. "How much time? One day? Two days?"

"I will let you know within an hour at your office," she told him.

Mr. Grimm rose. In case of accident, I shall look to Count di Rosini for adjustment," he added pointedly. "Good-morning."

One hour and ten minutes later he received this note, unsigned: "Closed carriage will stop for you at southeast corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Fourteenth Street to-night at one."

He was there; the carriage was on

stakes are high. She played and won, and played and won, and on and on, until her winnings were about eight thousand dollars. Then luck turned. She began to lose. Her money went. She continued to play desperately. Finally some old family jewels were pawned without her father's knowledge, and ultimately they were lost. One day she awoke to the fact that she owed some nine or ten thousand dollars in bridge debts. They were pressing and there was no way to meet them. This meant exposure and utter ruin, and women do strange things, Mr. Grimm, to postpone such an ending to social aspirations. I know this much is true, for she related it all to me herself.

"At last, in some way—a misplaced letter, perhaps, or a word overheard—she learned that fifty thousand dollars would be in the legation bank overnight, and evidently she learned the precise night." She paused a moment. "Here is the address of a man in Baltimore, Thomas Q. Griswold," and she passed a card to Mr. Grimm, who sat motionless, listening. "About four years ago the combination on the legation safe was changed. This man was sent here to make the change, therefore some one besides Senator Rodriguez does know the combination. I have communicated with this man today, for I saw the possibility of just such a thing as this instead of your stethoscope. By a trick and a forged letter this girl obtained the combination from this man."

Mr. Grimm drew a long breath. "She intended to take, perhaps, only what she desperately needed—but at sight of it all—do you see what must have been the temptation then? We get out here."

There were many unanswered questions in Mr. Grimm's mind. He repressed them for the time, stepped out and assisted Miss Thorne to alight. The carriage had turned out of Pennsylvania Avenue, and at the moment he didn't quite place himself. A narrow passageway opened before them—evidently the rear entrance to a house possibly in the next street. Miss Thorne led the way unhesitatingly, cautiously unlocked the door, and to-

past." She extended both hands impetuously. "Please be generous, Mr. Grimm. You have the gold; don't destroy her."

Senor Rodriguez, the minister from Venezuela, found the gold in his safe on the following morning, with a brief note from Mr. Grimm, in which there was no explanation of how or where it had been found. . . . And two hours later Monsieur Boissegur, ambassador from France to the United States, disappeared from the embassy, vanished!

## CHAPTER XII.

### The Vanishing Diplomatist.

It was three days after the ambassador's disappearance that Monsieur Rigolot, secretary of the French embassy and temporary charge-d'affaires, reported the matter to Chief Campbell in the Secret Service Bureau, adding thereto a detailed statement of several singular incidents following close upon it. He told it in order, concisely and to the point, while Grimm and his chief listened.

"Monsieur Boissegur, the ambassador, you understand, is a man whose habits are remarkably regular," he began. "He has made it a rule to be at his desk every morning at ten o'clock, and between that time and one o'clock he dictates his correspondence, and clears up whatever routine work there is before him. I



"Now, Monsieur, There Are Only Two Entrances to the Embassy."

have known him for many years, and have been secretary of the embassy under him in Germany and Japan and in this country. I have never known him to vary this general order of work unless because of illness, or necessary absence.

"Well, Monsieur, last Tuesday—this is Friday—the ambassador was at his desk as usual. He dictated a dozen or more letters, and had begun another—a private letter to his sister in Paris. He was well along in this letter when, without any apparent reason, he rose from his desk and left the room, closing the door behind him. His stenographer's impression was that some detail of business had occurred to him, and he had gone into the general office to attend to it. I may say, Monsieur, that this impression seemed strengthened by the fact that he left a fresh cigarette burning in his ash tray, and his pen was behind his ear. It was all as if he had merely stepped out, intending to return immediately—the sort of thing Monsieur, that any man might have done.

"It so happened that when he went out he left a sentence of his letter incomplete. I tell you this to show that the impulse to go must have been a sudden one, yet there was nothing in his manner, so his stenographer says, to indicate excitement, or any other than his usual frame of mind. It was about five minutes of twelve o'clock—high noon—when he went out. When he didn't return immediately the stenographer began transcribing the letters. At one o'clock Monsieur Boissegur still had not returned and his stenographer went to luncheon."

As he talked, some inbred excitement seemed to be growing upon him due, perhaps, to his recital of facts and he paused at last to regain control of himself. Incidentally he wondered if Mr. Grimm was taking the slightest interest in what he was saying. Certainly there was nothing in his impassive face to indicate it.

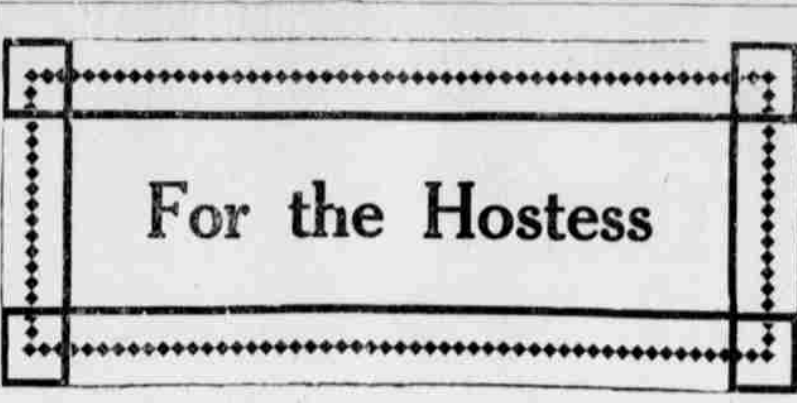
"Understand, Monsieur," the secretary continued after a moment, "that I knew nothing whatever of all this until late that afternoon—that is Tuesday afternoon about five o'clock I was engaged all day upon some important work in my office, and had had no occasion to see Monsieur Boissegur since a word or so when he came in at ten o'clock. My attention was called to the affair finally by his stenographer, Monsieur Netteville, who came to me for instructions. He had finished the letters and the ambassador had not returned to sign them. At this point I began an investigation, Monsieur, and the further I went the more uneasy I grew."

"Now, Monsieur, there are only two entrances to the embassy—the front door, where a servant is in constant attendance from nine in the morning until ten at night, and the rear door, which can only be reached through the kitchen. Neither of the two men who had been stationed at the front door had seen the ambassador since breakfast, therefore he could not have gone out that way. Comprenez? It seemed ridiculous, Monsieur, but then I went to the kitchen. The chef had been there all day, and he had not seen the ambassador at all. I inquired further. No one in the embassy, not a clerk, nor a servant, nor a member of the ambassador's family had seen him since he left his office."

Again he paused and ran one hand across his troubled brow. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

**Suitable.** "That young painter's wife is not pretty nor clever, but she is as good as she can be."  
"Then I suppose he married her for economy's sake."  
"What do you mean?"  
"Why, isn't it economy for an artist to marry a model?"

**To Do Great Things.** The power to do great things generally arises from the willingness to do small things.



## For the Hostess

### A Daisy Table.

In many localities daisies grow wild in profusion, a hostess who rejoiced in fields of them used this delightful combination; she made long chains of daisies and snail and outlined the places at table which was set with a cluny lace cloth over pale blue. The candlesticks were of glass with white candles shaded with white over blue with a fringe of white beads. The center piece was a gilded basket with daisies, the handle tied with a huge bow of white and blue satin ribbon. The guests were all members of an embroidery class, so for favors there were gilded embroidery hoops tied with pale blue satin ribbon. For place cards there were hand-painted marguerites the petals cut out, names of the guests being done in gilt.

At each plate was a corsage bouquet of daisies tied with blue ribbon. Every one exclaimed "How lovely!" when the doors were opened and the pretty table disclosed; the china was white gold band and the effect was so cool and refreshing. A simple summer menu was served, the salad being the only thing characteristic of the decorations. It was made by hard boiling eggs, cutting the whites lengthwise to make petals and mashing the well seasoned yolks to form the round centers of the "daisies" which were carefully formed on the blanched hearts of head lettuce.

### For a Japanese Party.

Write the invitations as the natives do—up and down, instead of across, using the regular Japanese stationery, which comes in rolls, or use paper napkins. Sometimes I have seen little notes enclosed in tiny lanterns or tightly clasped in the arms of small Japanese dolls; if either are used, of course the invitations are delivered by messengers.

There is scarcely any limit to the decorations, as there are so many articles to use, screens, fans, parasols, bead portieres, bamboo tables and chairs, with a profusion of pink tissue paper cherry blossoms. Burn Japanese incense; if cards are played, lovely ones are obtainable with Japanese

scenes on the backs; instead of a bell use a gong for starting the games, and for keeping score use small Japanese favors of which there is a great variety. For finding partners it is a pretty idea to attach prizes, such as dolls, lacquered boxes, bronzes, carved ivories, handleless cups in Canton china. Serve ice-tea punch during the game, then a Japanese salad composed of a number of vegetables served in chrysanthemum paper cases, cherry ice, rice cakes, Chinese nuts, and, for fun, chop sticks could be passed tied with yellow ribbon for souvenir. Use on this occasion a good quality of tissue paper napkins. While there is nothing very new in the Japanese scheme, it is always effective and people never seem to tire of it.

### The Tin Wedding.

Invitations for this delightfully informal tin wedding anniversary party were issued on cards smoothly covered with tin foil, the writing being done with a dull pencil. The hostess carried a bouquet encased in a tin funnel, and the guests sent all sorts of tin presents most elaborately wrapped; a tin dipper held white roses, a bread pan served as a punch bowl, a dust pan arrived tied with white satin ribbon, tin candlesticks, apple corer, toaster, canisters for tea and spices were all carefully sent in boxes by special messengers. Opening these parcels and reading congratulatory telegrams and special delivery letters furnished a good share of the evening's entertainment. All of these had been cleverly planned by the guests, and there were several good toasts arranged in advance. Refreshments were served on tin and the bridegroom was the recipient of cigars ingeniously done up in tin receptacles.

### MADAME MERRILL.

#### Usually the Case.

"Harold never has told me what he paid for the engagement ring."

"Well!"

"I'd like to know."

"What do you want to bother him for? It's a clinch he paid all he had."

## Dresses for Girls



**T**HE first is for a girl of 8 to 10 years, and looks well in navy blue casement cloth; two inverted pleats turning towards the front are made each side; the top is set to a prettily shaped yoke that is in pale blue braided with navy, a band of the same being placed across-front. The sleeve trimming and wrist-band match the yoke.

Materials required: 3 yards 40 inches wide, 3/4 yard 24 inches wide for trimming.

For the second blue zephyr and all-over embroidery are used, the dress is for a girl of 10 to 12 years. The skirt is slightly full at the waist, it is trimmed down front and about five inches from foot with bands of embroidery.

The yoke of the bodice is of embroidery, so are the straps down

front, and the sleeve bands are of the same material.

Materials required: 3 yards 40 inches wide, 1 1/2 yard embroidery 18 inches wide.

The third illustration shows a very dainty little dress for a girl also of 10 to 12; it is in cream velveteen of good quality.

The full skirt is lightly embroidered round the top of hem, the fronts of the Maxy bodice are embroidered to match skirt and are arranged to cross over a vest of muslin embroidery.

The under-sleeves reach just below the elbow, they are finished with lace like the neck. A waistband of soft silk fastens at left side under a rose-ette.

Materials required: 3 1/2 yards 40 inches wide.

## IN VOGUE

Large dots of chenille are seen on many velvies.

Tailored suits of linen or silk are showing revivals of bright colors.

Some smart shoes have white buckskin tops and patent leather pumps.

French millinery shows the tendency for ribbon, silk and velvet bows.

Two shades of blue, one very much lighter, are used on linen tailored suits.

Braid is a factor to be reckoned with in the planning of new dresses or suits.

Irregular shapes and plenty of uncurled ostrich plume mark the latest large hats as a rule.

Striped sheer linen is favored for simple little frocks, china blue and white being the most popular.

Artificial flowers are being worn in bouquet form on tailor made suits

or afternoon dresses, the small flowers being used. The lily of the valley, sweet pea, heather and forget-me-nots are claiming great favor.

Many of the lingerie dresses are distinguished by the new collar. The latest evolution of the collar is a deep, square, or rounded lace cape collar reaching the belt in the back and sometimes hanging just a little below it.

### Sashes for Vanity.

One of the greatest aids in varying the white summer gowns is the use of the sash, which is the style as much as ever.

The velvet sash of the winter is superseded by the pastel colored moires and the lighter chiffon ruches, black in color, as an edging, this finished with black chenille fringe and flowers of the same at the ends, some being decorated with wreaths of gold roses at the ends in place of the other decoration.

These are some of the newer fancies that seem at once to become popular as they are shown in some of the most exclusive shops.

## Temperance

REGARD ALCOHOL AS POISON

In Some Cases Gives Little Evidence of Presence Until Strain is Put on Organism.

Dr. Howard Dickinson, in an article in the Lancet on the relative importance of exciting and predisposing causes in disease, expresses very decided opinions on the question of alcoholism in relation to tuberculosis. Thirty years ago, he says, in the course of some inquiries on the pathological effects of alcohol, I came upon evidence, which appeared to me conclusive and which has influenced later medical opinion, to the effect that this agent does not prohibit but encourages the growth of tubercle. With a view of ascertaining the effects of alcohol in the production of organic disease I applied myself to the admirable records of this hospital and by their means instituted a detailed comparison between the post-mortem appearances of persons whose occupations had to do with liquor—brewers' men, portmen, waiters, and the like—and others whose callings necessitated no familiarity with it. I relied upon the general rule, as applied to the class from whence the London hospitals draw their patients, that those who get drunk for nothing will drink more than those who have to pay for it. That comparison, it is needless to observe, was not between liquor and no liquor, one difficult to place on a sure and sufficient foundation, but between more and less, based on the fundamental character of the Anglo-Saxon. The records to which I have referred presented in thirty years the post-mortem examinations of 149 traders in drink, to which I opposed the same number of post-mortem examinations of persons not so occupied. The results with regard to tubercle were striking. Of the alcoholic sixty-one had tubercle of the lung and of the non-alcoholics forty-four. With regard to other organs and structures liable to tubercle—the brain, the liver, the kidneys, the spleen, the bowels, the mesenteric glands, and the peritoneum, every one of these in the alcoholic class displayed tubercle at least twice as often as in the non-alcoholic. Nothing could be more consistent in associating tubercle with drink.

Commenting on the above, at the annual meeting of the British Temperance Association, Dr. J. M. Cowan remarks: Alcohol, then, must be looked upon as a poison, sometimes acting alone, at others assisting the poisons of disease-producing organisms, or again, acting along with the waste products of the body. It may in certain cases give little evidence of its presence until some extra strain is thrown upon the organism, but when that extra strain comes the parts and tissues that have been affected by alcohol are the first to give way. Those who take alcohol are reducing the margin of their reserve to a limit that may be too small for any extra and special call that may be made upon it. It is for this reason that insurance companies are so anxious to obtain total abstainers as policy holders, and that they look with a 10 per cent. suspicion upon those who do not abstain from the use of alcohol, however moderately they may use it.

Instructive Experiment. Recent experiments to demonstrate the effect of alcohol on animals, in which spirits were given regularly to one pair of dogs and withheld from another "show," says Science, "that of the progeny of the alcoholic pair, twenty pups, born in three litters, eight were malformed and six born dead. The normal pair produced six pups in three litters, and not one of these was born dead, and only one was malformed. During an epidemic of distemper one of the alcoholized dogs died, and all save one were seriously affected; none of the other dogs exhibited any serious symptoms of disease."

Can Serve but One Master. The use of wine, or abstinence from it, is no longer a private, but a social matter. All men are now divided—whether they will or not—into two camps. Some fight against the use of this worthless poison, both by word and deed, abstaining from it themselves, and not entertaining their friends with it; others support by precept, and still more forcibly by example, the use of this poison. Whoever then may be, they cannot no longer remain between two camps; they must inevitably choose one of two courses—either to resist drunkenness or to support it—to serve God or mammon.—Tolstol.

Liquor Shops in Normandy. There is one liquor shop for every seventy inhabitants in Normandy. Taking account of children and abstinent women and men, it may be said that every liquor dealer is supported by twenty-three people. The daily bill of food and drink of a well-paid workingman, on the 17th of January, 1903, was as follows: Three little glasses, 6 cents; coffee with brandy, 11 cents; two absinthes, 19 cents; two bitters, 10 cents; Madeira, 8 cents; food (eggs, bread, cheese), 22 cents; coffee with brandy, 15 cents; two absinthes and two little glasses, 24 cents—in all, 84 cents for drink to 22 for food.

Our Burdens Made Light. Every Christian is called upon, by the very fact that he is known as a Christian, to take Christ's yoke upon him. The yoke, it has been well said, "is fitted to the neck of the patient or not as a load to carry, but as a means to make burden-bearing easier. Christ's yoke is the way in which he bore the burdens of life. If we bear our burdens in the same way, they will not gall nor fret us." Before one reaches the rest in heaven it is possible to find rest on earth, if only the yoke of the Master, in mercy given, is submitted and joyfully borne and endured.

## Finding of the Book of the Law

Sunday School Lesson for July 30, 1911

Specially Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT—II Chronicles 34:14-22. MEMORY VERSE—II. GOLDEN TEXT—"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."—Psa. 119:14. TIME—II. C. 621. In the 18th year of Josiah's reign, when he was 25 years old, Siege IV of the last lesson. PLACE—The Temple and Palace at Jerusalem. PERSONS—Josiah the king, Hilkiah the prophetess, Hilkiah the high priest, Shaphan the scribe or secretary.

With hundreds of millions of Bibles in existence and several millions more printed every year, it is somewhat difficult for us to imagine how knowledge of the written Bible, and of the exact tenor of its teachings, could be lost. Some facts will help us to understand. There were at that time very few copies of the sacred books in existence. They were very expensive. It was customary for these copies to be kept in the temple, while the copy which (according to the law) was made for the use of the king, would most certainly have perished under such kings as Manasseh and Amon. Very few of the people could read the law even if it had been within their reach. A modern illustration is the case of Europe before the reformation, where even in the monasteries the Bible was almost an unknown book. Luther was twenty years old before he ever saw a copy.

It is plain that the finding of this book "was not the discovery of something unknown before, but the rescuing of the temple copy of the law from the hiding place in which it had long lain." It must have been the ancient copy of the law, and not a book written, as some critics think, by unknown persons in the reign of Manasseh, never seen or used among the Jews before. That an unknown book with no authority behind it should produce the effect on Josiah and his people, which this book of the law produced, borders on the absurd. Moreover many of the laws must have been familiar to Josiah for they had been acted upon by his ancestors in every reform, and by himself in the reforms he began six years before, in the twelfth year of his reign. It would have been impossible to impose upon the people, and make them believe that a new book, never before heard of, was the law of their kingdom from God.

When they brought out from the old chests in the temple the money contributed for repairs, which had been deposited in the safest hiding place, Hilkiah the priest, who had charge of the money, in searching the chest found at the bottom a book of the law of the Lord, the law given by Moses.

Hilkiah delivered the book to Shaphan, King Josiah's secretary of state, as the fitting person to show it to the king. When Shaphan reported the contributions and the work on the temple, he brought the book with him, told how it had been found, and read it to the king.

The king heard the book read, and he assembled the elders and priests, and the Levites. They made a public covenant and pledge. The king himself first made a public covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord, and to keep his commandments, with all his heart.

This was very similar to the great meeting under Josiah on the slopes of Mount Ebal and Gerizim eight centuries before, on taking possession of the Promised Land. The same motives were presented, and the same covenant made. And the king might well have said to the people as Joshua did: "Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses."

The covenant was made under the power of the strongest and best motives that could be brought to bear upon them, when their minds were uplifted into clearest vision, above the smoke and clouds of earth. That was the right time to make a decision. God has given us feelings on purpose to move us to decide aright.

Josiah restored the regular temple services under the priests and Levites; and he celebrated a passover, such as had not been celebrated from the days of the judges that Judged Israel, nor in all the days of the kings of Israel, nor of the kings of Judah. From all parts of the land the people flocked up to the renovated temple and joined with every demonstration of gladness in the eight days' festivity prepared for them. Thirty thousand males of full age attended. During all these days the services of the temple choir were brought into regulation—the singers of the famous clan of Asaph chanting, in relays, the psalms for the season, appointed centuries before by David, Asaph and Jeduthan.

The Bible may be lost today by neglecting it—neglecting to read it daily. Neglecting family reading and prayers. Neglecting to read its stories to little children. By disobeying it. Disobeying its precepts dulls the conscience, and the whole moral nature, so that it may be said, "Eyes have they, but they see not; ears have they but they hear not."

By being so absorbed in worldly things that while he heareth the word with his ears, "the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful." By keeping the Word far from daily life, so that all its blessed truths are admired, but not geared on to right action. They are to be hearers "as a very lovely sound of one that hath a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument; for they hear thy words, but they do them not."

By making the Bible unattractive. I have heard a number of ministers read the Bible so poorly that people were not as a load to carry, but as a means to make burden-bearing easier. Christ's yoke is the way in which he bore the burdens of life. If we bear our burdens in the same way, they will not gall nor fret us." Before one reaches the rest in heaven it is possible to find rest on earth, if only the yoke of the Master, in mercy given, is submitted and joyfully borne and endured.

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