

THERE WAS SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT SARAH AND FORTUNE-HUNTING FRED ROYCE WAS DESTINED TO FIND OUT TO HIS EVERLASTING REGRET WHAT MADE HER DIFFERENT FROM ANYONE HE'D EVER MET IN HIS LIFE! SHE LOOKED PLAIN BUT THERE WAS...

SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT SARAH!



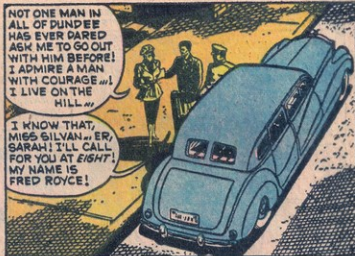
FRED ROYCE FOLLOWED THE INN'S PROPRIETOR TO THE STREET, AND HE WHISTLED SOFTLY AT WHAT WAS POINTED OUT TO HIM ...



AYE, SO THEY ARE! WHY, THAT LASS IS THE ONLY CHILD OF THE RICHEST LANDOWNER IN ALL SCOTLAND!



FRED GLANCED ONCE MORE AT THE CASTLE GLISTENING ON THE HILLTOP, THEN STARTED TO FOLLOW THE STRANGE YOUNG WOMAN.



HAVING BROKEN THE ICE, FRED WAS CONFIDENT THAT HIS GOOD LOOKS AND GLIB TONGUE WOULD SOON WIN HIM A RICH BRIDE! THAT EVENING ON THEIR FIRST DATE TOGETHER...



LATER, ON THE WAY HOME, SARAH FOUND HERSELF FASCINATED BY FRED'S IRRESISTIBLE CHARM...



HE DID NOT ANSWER AT ONCE, BUT PARKED HIS CAR AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD...

THE HANDSOME FRED WAS TOO DETERMINED TO WIN THE WEALTHY HEIRESS TO BE PUT OFF BY AN EVASIVE ANSWER! THE FOLLOWING MORNING HE ARRIVED BRIGHT AND EARLY AT SILVAN CASTLE...

FRED SMILED AS HE RETURNED TO HIS CAR, AND GLANCED AT THE CASTLE GLITTERING IN THE SUNLIGHT...



THE EAGER GUITOR ARRIVED IN PARIS AT NOON, AND WENT AT ONCE TO THE HOTEL...



FRED ATTEMPTED TO FOLLOW SARAH, BUT SHE HAD VANISHED! HE RETURNED TO THE AIRPORT...

WE HAD NO DIFFICULTY FINDING SARAH... HE MERELY LOOKED FOR HER IN LONDON'S MOST EXCLUSIVE HOTEL...





SARAH VANISHED ONCE MORE, BUT FRED WASN'T IN THE LEAST DISCOURAGED! A YOUNG LADY OF SO VAST A FORTUNE MUST CERTAINLY LEAVE A TRAIL...

I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT MISS SILVAN'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE THAT I WAS TO TELL NO ONE HER DESTINATION!

NOT EVEN A HINT... FOR THIS POUND NOTE?



I'M AFRAID IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL YOU, SIR... I SHOULD FEEL RESPONSIBLE IF YOU WERE TO FOLLOW HER AND FALL INTO A CANAL...

WELL, NEVER MIND THEN... JUST MAKE A PLANE RESERVATION FOR ME! I WANT TO GO TO VENICE!



IT WAS ONLY SLIGHTLY MORE DIFFICULT FINDING SARAH IN VENICE! FRED CAUGHT UP WITH HER EARLY THE NEXT EVENING...



THEY RETURNED TO SCOTLAND THAT NIGHT, AND IN THE MORNING, WITH THE SILVAN CASTLE LYING ON THE DISTANT HILL WITHIN THE RANGE OF FRED'S GREEDY EYES, THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN MARRIED THEM...



YOU'RE ONE OF THE FAMILY NOW, FRED! WE'D BE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU COME LIVE WITH US!

WHY, THANK YOU, MR. SILVAN! IF THAT WOULD MAKE SARAH HAPPY, TOO, I'LL BE GLAD TO MAKE MY HOME WITH YOU!



ALL THE SILVAN RELATIVES WERE AT THE CASTLE FOR THE NEWLY WEDS' RECEPTION THAT NIGHT! FRED TRIED HARD TO LOOK PLEASED WITH SARAH'S WEDDING GIFT.



I HAD IT FLOWN HERE FROM VENICE FOR YOU, DEAR ... I KNEW YOU'D ALWAYS WANT TO RECALL THAT MOMENT YOU PROPOSED TO ME!

A GONDOLA! HOW... HOW WONDERFUL!



I HAVE A GIFT FOR YOU TOO, SON! A MILLION ACRES OF LAND!

AH, THAT'S MORE LIKE IT... BUT IT'S JUST THE START!

GEE, THANKS, MR. SILVAN!



SUDDENLY THE CASTLE SHOOK, AND THERE WAS A GREAT ROAR THAT STARTLED THE BRIDGROOM...

MY GOSH, SARAH... IT'S AN EARTHQUAKE!

NO, DEAR...



WE'RE JUST GOING HOME FOR OUR HONEYMOON!



IT WAS SOME TIME BEFORE HE COULD GRASP THE FACT THAT THE SILVAN CASTLE WAS NOT A CASTLE... IT WAS A GREAT ROCKET SHIP, STARTING ITS LONG JOURNEY THROUGH THE NIGHT SKY!

AND NOW, HERE ON A CANAL ON MARS, FRED SAT, GLARING AT HIS WIFE...

YOU SAID YOU COULD GO THROUGH LIFE LIKE THIS WITH ME, FRED... THAT'S WHY I BOUGHT THE GONDOLA FOR YOU!



YEAH, YOU SILVANS HAVE BEEN SO GOOD TO ME... I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE MILLION ACRES YOUR FATHER GAVE ME — HERE ON MARS!

BUT THINK, DARLING, ALL OF IT IS YOURS! WE CAN LIVE HERE TOGETHER FOREVER!

