

and a compression of the state of the state

SYNOPSIS Luke Maddison, wealthy banker and his oars, and in a minute Luke heard Luke nodded. his sister Margaret's fiance, to a the jolt of the boat striking against "I drove the car. I hadn't the slight- "Well, not exactly," drawled the large check. He is found dead with the stone. Maddison ofh aving ruined him. Mar- hand gripped Luke's wrist and drew too late." garet marries Luke Maddison, after him to a sitting position. ruined him to revenge her brother. to land. It took five minutes before explain-" London, is attacked by thugs who gave under him, and he wanted all stops splitting," groaned Luke. mixed up with two bad gangsters take him for a detective, recovers in the support that his companion could It was after two that afternoon Connor and Morell." hospital to find he is known as give him. nors gang, who mistake him for an to stand." jewel robbery. He does not know the Gunner's voice aroused him. he gave her, to the dismay of one said. "We had better get up before ished. Danton Morell, her dead brother's it's light." friend, concerning whom Gunner Haynes, an American jewel thief, whom Maddison had once befriended, man to rise to his feet. has been making inquiries. Detective Bird of Scotland Yard, known al- steep flight until they emerged flush money. Why do you ask?" so as The Sparrow, is likewise interested in Morell. Maddison goes to his own old bachelor quarters, is tak-

police and tries to get in touch with Detective Bird. The Connors gang learn of this, sandbag and imprison him in an underground cell near the river where he is certain to be drowned when the tide rises. Meantime Margaret, revisiting Luke's old rooms finds a sheet of paper on which Luke had begun a letter to his friend and lawyer saying that he is in desperate trouble. Margaret's joy over the recovery that Luke is alive and in London is tempered by the statement of Detective Bird that the man concerned in the jewel robbery, whom she now knows was Luke, had been going around fo r two years with the woman whose accomplice he was. Gunner Haynes drops into Joe Con-

en for a burglar, escapes from the

nor's hiding-place just as Connor's men are fastening Luke's feet with chains to a large block of rock salt, intending to throw him in the river, !: where the salt will dissolve, the chains with the footpath. The people who Gunner Haynes pursed his lips. drop off and the body will be found were hurrying across the bridge took "I don't know. Connor is a pretty as he was," she smiled. sees two men climbing the fence. When he saw a slowly moving cab he penal servitude. If he gets away little impertinent. I remember I

the place where he had left Luke, he ther," he explained to the cabman ing-Connor is the sort of man who lifted him and went cautiously and with a smile. "Drive me to Lennox would investigate the most unlikely gingerly down the slope toward the Street. Clerkenwell." water. There would be a boat here. There was a large block of model of money in it. And that is going to Presently his keen eyes discerned the buildings in Lennox Street, and for make your reappearance a rather difdim shape of it as it moved uneasily years the Gunner had had his secret ficult matter." on the rising tide.

of leaving Luke to be discovered by the police, and had rejected that plan. He owed a debt to this manhe could not leave him to discovery and disgrace. If what Connor had said was true, Maddison, in his capacity of brigand, was as much want- Luke Maddison. ed by the police as Connor himself.

stone causeway with the heel of his you some coffee." boot, and put Luke aboard by the simple process of laying him level "Coffee-ugh!" with the edge of the wharf and roll- "Gave it to you in that, did they? ing him onto the boat. It took a few | That's probably why you're not dead.' minutes to balance him. As he him- He pulled down the blinds before self stepped astride of the man, he he lit the gas; then, going into the heard the sound of voices in the yard, little kitchen, he made coffee heard the sound of voices in the yard, little kitchen, he made coffee. saw the flicker of electric lamps. Un- The Gunner had kept house in tying the painter, he pushed off with places as wide apart as Biazzitz is his hand, dragged an oar from under from Munich, and knew how to brew the reclining figure and paddled his that delicious beverage. When he way to midstream, keeping a sharp came back Luke was sitting on the lookout for the river police.

He saw the launch coming down-

"A bit late," muttered the Gunner. scious of his benefactor. He was free from detection now, unless he met another patrol, and asked. finding the second oar, he pushed Luke down between the two seats and sitting, rowed steadily down-

In an hour there would be daylight; already the eastern sky was "Now, Mr. Maddison, are you well whitening. The Gunner knew a enough to talk?" safe landing near Rotherhithe; the tide was turning and would, he judg-

ed, carry him to safety. He judged wrong, and saw, before he had reached London Bridge, that you. There's one thing I want to ask terton, Md.; B. W. Duling, Millinghe could not make his destination in you—is it true, the story that Con- ton, Md.; Frank H. Ruth, Galena, the darkness. He took his decision quickly. Stooping over the side of the boat, he filled his hat with water UNE and dashed it in the face of the slumbering man. Luke shivered and groaned, and the Gunner repeated his experiment. He heard the moaning voice of the man at the bottom of the boat.

"My head ... " "Keep quiet!" hissed Haynes. "I'm taking you to London Bridge Stairs." There was no answer, and the Gunner prodded with his heel at his uneasily moving cargo.

"Do you hear me?" "Yes, I hear you. What has hap-

DENTIST Office in the Telephone Exchange Building, Chestertown, Md.

"Smith." In this new character he "Sit on the steps," commanded the becomes involved with the Joe Con- Gunner, and Luke obeyed. "Now try

that Margaret has relented and has "There are too many people passreturned to his bankers all the money ing over the bridge to please me," he making no comment until he had fin- He saw Luke thrust his hands in-

> He assisted the half-unconscious Luke nodded. Neither spoke as they climbed the I didn't speak about my wife and the patiently.

Rex Leferre forges the name of Haynes did not reply, but pulled at smash-and-grab raid at Taffanny's?" the man's eyes.

est idea what they wanted me to do Gunner. "I've given up blaming peo- FOR SALE_DOUBLE DWELLING a note in his handwriting accusing "Can you get up? The Gunner's or what it was all about until it was ple. There's no profit in it." "So you're the bearded man?" rette carefully into his saucer.

when he awoke from an uneasy sleep. He rose and paced up and down His head was still thick, his mouth the small room, his eyes narrowed, his tasted like a limekiln, but after a brow corrugated in thought. cold wash at the kitchen sink he was "It's Connor at's worrying me. time reserved nothing.

The Gunner listened in silence, you got your passport?"

"Did you tell Connor this story?" dismay come to his face. "Yes, except that naturally enough



"Tell me why your wife hated you."

headquarters in a fairly large flat on He lit another cigarette and stared He had considered the possibility the ground floor. It was a place to past his guest. which he very seldom came, and of "Tell me why your wife hated you wife hated you norant. It was his pied-a-terre, jeal- of your yarn." ously preserved for emergencies. He had slept there two nights before, and the woman who came in daily had made the bed. Upon this he laid

"They must have given you a pret-He drew the boat to the broken ty large dose," he said. "I'll make

Luke shuddered.

side of the bed, his head in his hands. INSURES

"A couple of aspirins ought to put stream at full speed, and drove his you right," said the Gunner, and went ALL POLICY HOLDERS PARTICI boat into the shelter of two moored in search of the little white pellets. barges as the tiny steamer swung in Luke gulped down the medicine, and then for the first time became con-

> Haynes smiled. "That is my name." "Where is Connor" Again that cryptic smile. "In jail, I hope," said the Gunner.

Luke looked up eagerly. "You know me, then " The man nodded.

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without marks of violence. Haynes little notice of them, and gripping his bad man. Your only hope is that he's The Gunner nodded. defies the Connor gang and takes companion by the arm, the Gunner sent down for a stretch—by which Maddison into the yard, pausing as he led him down toward Tooley Street. inelegent word I mean a term of for a long time." he said. "I was a NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY hailed the driver and bundled Luke with this police raid, supposing they find nothing on the premises—and was a specific of the premises and was a specific of the premises and was a specific of the premises and was a specific of the premise of the premises and was a specific of the premise of the premis Returning as quickly as he came to "My friend's a bit under the wea- like a fool I gave him plenty of warnstory if he thought there was a chance

whose existence the police were ig- -you rather glossed over that part Luke was silent for a long time.

"I don't think it's very difficult to understand." he said. "She thought I was responsible for the death of her brother. He shot himself."

"But why did she understand that?" persisted the Gunner. "Allowing that Danty Morrell is a very plausible gentleman, she would hardly take his bare word." He thought for a moment, then asked suddenly: "When that

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Luke shook his head. She laughed at this. "I heard of none-nor was any-"Do you know where my husband thing mentioned at the inquest." is now?" she asked, and when he "Who found his body?" "Morrell was in the room and made shook his head hr heart sank. She had had a vague idea that this the discovery."

man might have come into touch with The Gunner nodded. "And immediately after that Mrs. his benegactor. Maddison's manner changed. Of "I can tell you where Mr. Morell is course, you weren't married then, but now," he said, with a twinkle in his that is a fact, isn't it? If that is a eyes, "but that's not going to help fact, it means that Danty carried you very much. I've come to repeat some evidence to the young lady that my imperitinence, Mrs. Maddison. At was quite sufficient to make her play the back of my mind I've got a nothis trick-"

nor told? That you were in that He saw a flicker of amusement in He said this deliberately, his eyes

message behind?"

"You are?"

He flicked off the ash of his ciga- Electric lights, water conveniences.

he has given her everything he owns. With the boathook he drew the lit- mused the Gunner. "That certainly "You can't make a sudden reap- ELLSWORTH C. GREENWOOD, She leaves him, telling him she has the skiff against the steps and came is amazing. I'm not asking you to pearance; you can't even get to Ronda and be sure you'll get away with Luke, bewildered, wanders about Luke could follow him. His knees "I'll explain as soon as my head it," he said. "You're got yourself

nors gang, who mistake him for all to stand.

near to his normal self; and over a lf he's held for trial, that problem is cigarette and a cup of tea he told the settled. If he isn't, and suppose you cigarette and a cup of tea he told the settled. If he isn't, and suppose you cigarette and a cup of tea he told the settled. is made an unwilling accomplice in a up, his face in his hands, and then story from start to finish, and this come back from Ronda, he'll be able and Saturday. to trace all your movements. Have

side his shirt, and a look of blank . m. "I've lost it samewhere."

Gunner Hayne's lips clicked im-"If you lose it at Keel's Wharf then you're in the soup," he said. "There's only one thing to do and that is to get your passport back. There's another thing: I want to see the letter that that boy wrote before he shot himself." Luke shook his head.

"I don't believe he wrote a letter, and if he did it was certainly des-Ten minutes later the Gunner left the house on his quest.

Haynes was not prepared for the kindness of Margaret's welcome. In a sense it was a little embarrassing. He had come not to give but to seek information. It was vitally necessary that he should not betray the It is impossible for you to over-

the last time you came, Mr. Haynes," Materials now on the market. A reshe said as she sat down behind her liable dealer with a reputation for little desk and signalled to him to sit.

"You rather hurt my feelings about honest values will be your best proa-" she hesitated-"a friend of tection. When in the market for work mine, who isn't so much of a friend

with Luke.

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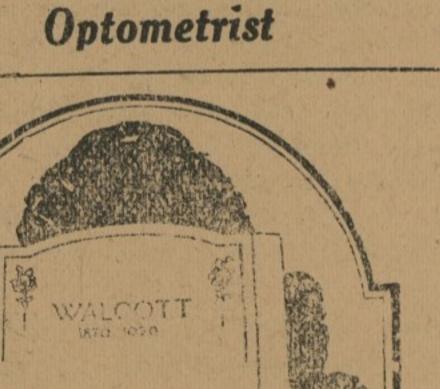
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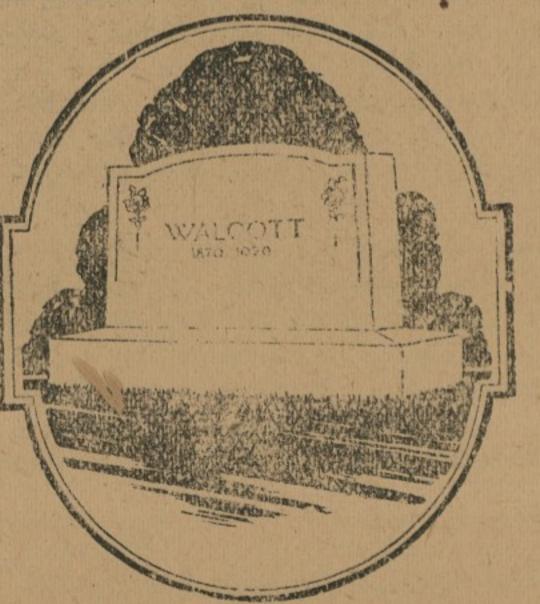


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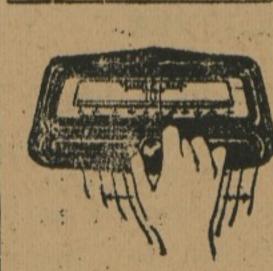
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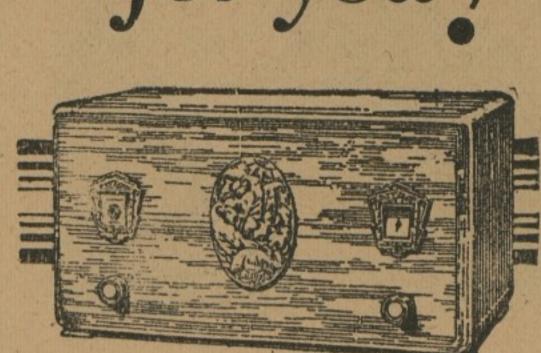
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