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SILENT SONGS.

When the song's gone out of your life,
That you thought would last to the end;
That first sweet song of love heart,
That after-days can lead—
The song of the birds to the trees—
The song of the wind to the flowers—
The song that the heart sings low to itself,
When it wakes in life's morning hours.

You can start no other song,
Not even a trampling note
Will falter forth on the empty air—
It dies in your aching throat.
It is all in vain that you try,
For the spirit of song has fled.
The nightingale sings no more to the rose,
When the beautiful flower is dead.

So let silence softly fall
On the bruised heart's quivering strings;
Perhaps from the loe of all, you may learn
The song that the sorrows sing:

A grand and glorious psalm
That will tremble and rise and thrill,
And your breast with its grateful rest
And its lovely yearnings still.

A Faithful Maid.

The blood-red ribbons of the storm
threatening sunset were fluttering in the
west; the huge oak-trees and pines of the
farm were murmuring ominously, and the
one chimney of the small farmhouse on the
edge of the woods sent up its blue column
of smoke, like a cherry hand beckoning to
the way-worn traveler over the hill. And
how bright and cosy the interior of the
kitchen looked, as Dora Klein stood on the
threshold, cold, hungry and inexpressibly
weary. A little girl, blue-eyed and blonde
haired, scarcely yet sixteen, with a shy ne-
pect and a shrinking mien, she had walked
from the city, seeking vainly for work at
various places she had passed, and now at
nightfall she was nearly discouraged.

"A girl?" said Mrs. Myers, dubiously,
as Dora Klein proffered her meek re-
quest. "I don't know anything about
you."

Mrs. Myers turned to her husband, who
sat by the fire, trotting a two-year-old on
his foot. "What shall I do, James?"

"She's a total stranger," he replied.

"But she looks so weary and worn out,"
said the wife.

"Well, let her come in and stay all
night; a bowl of bread and milk and one
night's lodging won't break us."

So Dora Klein was admitted into the
farmer's small family, and so neat and
handy was she about the place, so light and
agile in her movements, so quick to learn
and steadfast to remember, that good-na-
tured little Mrs. Myers had engaged her be-
fore she had been in the house a week.

"You women are so impulsive," said the
husband, frowning at her.

"Suppose she should turn out bad?"

"How can she, James?" said Mrs.
Myers, indignantly. "She has a face as
innocent as a baby's."

"My dear, I don't believe in physiog-
nomy."

"Nor I, altogether. But I do believe in
Dora Klein."

And as the days and weeks went by,
Mrs. Myers was obliged to confess to herself
that so far, at least, his wife's judgment or
instinct had been correct.

The last November leaves were fluttering
down one clear, cold afternoon, when Mrs.
Myers stood at the door, ready to join her
husband and baby in the wagon, to attend
a merry making at the nearest village,
some distance below, while Dora Klein
was to remain at home to keep house.

"Mind Dora you feed the chickens at
five o'clock, Dora, and don't forget the lit-
tle calf in the pen; and if you have any
extra time, you can just chop the meat
and the apples for the Saturday mince pies,
and—"

"Come wife, come!" called out her hus-
band from the wagon.

"And if the house should catch fire or
anything," added this prudent little edition
of Martha, troubled with many cares, "re-
member that the money is in an old stock-
ing under the board by the south window,
and the silver in the japanned box near it."

"Yes, m'm," said Dora, kissing her hand
to the laughing baby, "I remember."

"Some people would say, my dear, that
that was a very sharp proceeding of
yours," said Mr. Myers, as they drove
away.

"What do you mean?" asked his wife.

"To tell that girl just where our valu-
ables are kept."

"James, what an ideal! Why, I can
trust Dora as implicitly as I would trust
myself."

Mrs. Myers whistled and drove on, and
his wife was vexed with him for even
thinking such a doubt of Dora Klein.

But as they were jogging slowly home-
ward in the November twilight, a neighbor
halted them, joyously, from the top of a
load of barrels.

"I say, it's time 'you were home,'" said
Nehemiah Hardbrosks, "your girl's got com-
plicated."

"What do you mean?" demanded Myers.

"Why the doors and windows were all
open as I came by the crossroads, just
where you can see across the meadow to your
back door, and there was two or three men
in the kitchen. I thought it was some of
your folks, till I saw your wagon just now."

James Myers looked at his wife.

Mrs. Myers white, anxious face returned
the gaze.

"Dora is there, assented Mrs. Myers,
"that's the very reason I'm worried. Hold
the baby firm, and I'll see what's in old
Dobbin."

How they rattled over the frosty road,
Dobbin galloping as if trying the turf, and
the old wood rushing past them like the
scene of a panorama, while to the
anxious hearts of wife and husband, every
moment seemed an age. The house was
dark when they reached it. Mrs. Myers hung
the reins over the dashboard and sprang
out.

"Dorah! Dorah Klein!" he called, but
there was no answer save the faint echo of
his own voice.

And when the lamp was lighted, it shone
in a scene of dismay and confusion; but
the first corner at which the farmer glanced
revealed to him that the loose boards be-
neath the south window had been torn
away and the treasure nook which held
the silver spoon and the stockings full of
bank notes—their little all—was empty.

"So much for your girl and her friends
Janel!" said Mr. Myers in the bitterness
of his first anger, and Mrs. Myers burst into
tears, not so much, at all, at the loss of the
money, although that was a serious conse-
quence, as to think that little Dora Klein,

of whom she had unconsciously grown so
fond, was unworthy of a tender thought.

"That was one side of the little, every
day life story at the cottage; and now let
us take a peep at the other. Her master
and mistress had been gone an hour, and
Dora was chopping away at the meat, sing-
ing some roundly as she worked, when a
cracking on the floor, and turning her
head, she started to behold two very tall,
and gruff looking men in the room.

"Who are you?" demanded Dora, with
frightened valor, "and what do you want?"

"Don't worry yourself, my lass," said
the taller of the two, gruffly, "and don't
make any noise, if you don't want your
neck twisted around like a chicken's."

While the other, busying himself in re-
connoitering the cupboards and the shelves,
turned suddenly around with a valley of
outrage.

"Nothing but tin and pewter," he
snarled. "Tell us, where is the silver,
girl?"

"We have no silver," said Dora, falter-
ing. "What should poor people like us do
with silver?"

"The money, then? I know there is money,
for I saw him come out of the bank
yesterday with a wallet full. Quick, we
haven't any time to lose."

"It's—it's up stairs, in the space in the
bottom of the feather bed, in the spare room,"
hesitated Dora—but you won't hurt me?"

"What should we hurt you for?" scorn-
fully demanded the ruffian. "Go up stairs,
Jack, and see, while I stay here to keep this
girl from raising the neighborhood."

"I shall not scream," said Dora, elevat-
ing her head, contemptuously. "Who is
there to hear me, if I do? We are far
from any house."

"That true enough," said the man called
Jack. "Give us your knife, Casey, and
we'll stir up the life goose feathers to some
purpose. The girl won't trouble us."

But the heavy footsteps of the men had
hardly subsided at the head of the stairs
when Dora's languid assumption of indif-
ference vanished. Like a winged spirit she
flew across the room, and noiselessly pry-
ing up the loose boards with a knife, caught
up the japanned box and the stockings, and
hiding them in her apron, jumped from the
low window to avoid the noise of the rusty
door hinges, and struck into the woods at
the back of the house.

No hare ever darted more swiftly through
the tangled forest than did Dora Klein,
until at last safe in the deepest recesses,
where no one who was not nimble as a deer
and slender as herself, could follow, and
then, crouching down among the under-
growth, she watched and waited. As night
approached, and a friendly dew crept over
hill and dale, she ventured by degrees to
approach the side of the woods, where the
north star beamed overhead, reassuring her
of her whereabouts. And when at last the
hoarse voices of the two men, hurrying
down a secluded by road struck momentary
terror to her heart, the afterthought follow-
ed with blessed relief—the certainty that
they were gone and she was safe.

Mr. Myers and James were seated by the
fire that they had just kindled, neither of
them with any heart about the preparations
of the frugal evening meal, when the door
cracked on its hinges, and something glided
in pale and silent.

The next moment the japanned box and
stocking lay in Mrs. Myers' lap, and Dora
Klein was sobbing on her shoulder.

"Why Dora, exclaimed the farmer,
what does this mean?"

And Dora told her story, incoherently
and full of sobbing pauses, and when it was
concluded Mrs. Myers threw her arms
around the girl's neck and kissing her again
and again.

"James, James," she cried, almost hys-
terically, "you will never mistrust Dora
Klein again."

And James Myers, wiping a stray dew
drop or so from his eyes, confessed that lit-
tle Dora Klein had been as true heroine as
Joan of Arc herself.

German Tree Frogs.

Returning from the University of Glessen
I brought with me about a dozen green tree
frogs, which I had caught in the woods near
the town. They are most difficult things
to find, on account of their color, so much
resembling the leaves on which they live.
I have frequently heard one singing in
a small bush, and though I have searched
carefully, have not been able to find him.
The only way is to remain quite quiet till
he again begins his song. After much am-
bush work, at length I collected a dozen
frogs and put them in a bottle. I started
at night on my homeward journey, by the
diligence, and put the bottle containing the
frogs into the diligence. My fellow passen-
gers were sleepy, old, smoke-dried Ger-
mans; very little conversation took place,
and after the first mile every one settled
himself to sleep, but soon all the sleepers
had been roused at the same moment. On
their sleepy faces were depicted fear and
anger. What had woken us all up? And
why? The morning was just breaking,
and my frogs though in the dark pocket of
the coach, had found it out; and with one
accord all twelve of them began their morn-
ing song. As if at a given signal, they,
one and all of them, began to croak as loud
as they could. The noise their united
concert made, seemed, in the close compart-
ment of the coach, quite deafening. Well
might the German look angry; they wanted
to throw the frogs, bottle and all, out of
the window, but I gave the bottle a good
shaking, and made the frogs keep quiet.
The Germans all went to sleep again, but I
was obliged to remain awake to shake the
frogs when they began to croak.

A Loyal Missourian.

A man with a one-eyed horse, rigged in
a straw collar and dilapidated, old-fashion-
ed trace chains, rope lines, and wagon to
match, was seen in camp on the banks of
Sand Creek last night. He wore a con-
siderable cap, breeches of many colors, the
groundwork of which was yellow butternut.
He sported a long, old-style rifle, and a
"yaller" dog guarded the property. The
family was all in character, but beyond our
knowledge of millinery to describe. When
asked if he was on his way to Leadville,
he said he had never "heard of the place,"
and when asked where he was bound for,
he said: "Back home to old Missouri. I
left there just after the war, when the rebs
had everything their way, and went to
Texas. But 't'other day I hear a feller
read in a paper that the thing was all right
again, and that the old bounty on wolf
skulls had been put back again to \$8, and
I thought I was a fool of a living anyhow."

Who says there is no immigration to Mis-
souri?

Adventure With a Panther.

The animal had already been wounded
by a rifle ball. Having warned the village
shikaree to keep close behind him with the
heavy spear he had in his hand, I began to
follow the wounded panther; but had
scarcely gone twenty-five yards, when one
of the beaters, who was on high ground,
beckoned to me, and pointed a little below
him, and in front of me. There was a
black panther sitting, cool, unincensed, be-
tween two bushes, a dozen yards before me.
I could not, however, see his head; and
whilst I was thus delayed he came out with
a roar, straight at me. I fired at his chest
with a ball; and as he sprang upon me,
the shot barrel was aimed at his head. In
the next moment he seized my left arm and
the gun. Thus, not being able to use the
gun as a club, I forced it across into his
mouth. He bit the stock through in one
place, and whilst his upper fangs lacerated
my arm and hand, the lower fangs went in-
to the gun. His hind claws pierced my
left thigh. He tried very hard to throw
me over, but in the meanwhile the shikaree,
who had kept the spear before him,
might have stopped the charge of the pan-
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