

J. P. Read, son of J. P. Read, [xxx] and railroad magnet, is on a trip around the world. In his party are Mr. C, partner and friend's of O's father and Mr. H, a college chum of O's. At Shanghai, they stop off and see the town. With three White Russians they visit the various night clubs and after a night drinking and carousing, they all finish up in the cabin of O, the men very much inebriated.

O wakes up when they are far out at sea. He hears the lunch gong and realizes he has been sleeping on the sofa all night. On opening his closet to get a dressing gown, he discovers a woman there, one of the White Russians. She has stowed away in O's cabin for the purpose of escaping the sinister threat of [xxx] these [xxx] and to get to America where she will get a chance to live decently.

O opposes her pleas and tells her that she must go, but after much pleading, O permits her to stay in his cabin until they reach Kobe.

At Kobe, she deliberately stays on the boat and when confronted by O, she tells him that she never intended to get off at Kobe and that as they have gone so far, there is no reason why she shouldn't go all the way. ~~[xxx]~~

She threatens to blackmail him and he threatens to have her arrested. In the midst of the foray, his friend H [xxx] enters his cabin and discovers them. Not knowing the circumstances, he greets

P enthusiastically: So glad that she is to be with them, etc. His enthusiasm is interrupted by a knock on the cabin door and both P and O vanish into the bedroom. It is Hudson who comes in with O's pressed clothes. O takes them from him. When Hudson leaves, H inquires what seems to be the trouble. O tells him that P is a stowaway.

Later, O and H discuss the situation. H tells O to let him see her alone, to try and reason with her.

The interview is to no avail, and H tells O that he must make the best of the situation. They arrange to give a secret signal so that P will know who is to enter the cabin.

Hudson is the next to discover P.

O tell H, C & Hudson the secret knock they must give whenever they want to enter the cabin.

At night O, as usual, goes to bed on the sofa in the front room.

Several days have passed and H is talking to O about P. He tells her that he thinks she is a brave courageous girl to take such a chance and that he cannot help but admire her for her pluck and initiative. He feels sorry for her battling her problems all along and living under sufferance. He has had several talks with P and she is a most interesting girl, different from the usual type. Ogden is worried and unimpressed with H's account of P.

H tells O that if she wasn't such a cold-blooded proposition and so suspicious, he might see the virtue of her.

"Rumor," he says, "has warped your mind. Personally," he says, "I don't think she wants to blackmail you. Try and see her point of view. To remain in Shanghai would have meant death to her. All she wants is to get to America.

O says he will never hear the last of it. That her scheme is only the beginning of her blackmail.

H: "You can get more with honey than you can with bitterness. Be nice to her and she will probably return your kindness.

O: I did that once and look what happened.

The way you treat her, do you wonder she would blackmail?

How do you want me to treat her?

~~{xxx}~~

Well, she has been stuck in that cabin day after day, eating her meals all alone. Why not try to find out something about her, get the right side of her? You can do more good that way than ignoring her. Dine with her one evening and find out what's on her mind.

You've seen a lot of her. You should know what's on her mind.

I do. Personally, I believe she has no ulterior motives. Dine with her tonight. You'll find her most interesting.

~~{xxx}~~

That evening O dines with her and they have quite a tête à tête. Harvey joins them and the three of them play cards, which is interrupted by a knock at the door. O finds himself forgetting the truth of the situation and is almost having a good time with her, but he checks himself.

That evening, they go to bed and the atmosphere is much freer. They even say goodnight to each other.

The following morning, she is helping Hudson to clean up the room. She tells Hudson not to forget O's indigestion tablets, etc.

H comes to see her and tells her that there is to be a ball that evening. She would love to go, but she might be found out.

She is washing her hair and H helps her. He tells her something about his life and the reason he drinks. She tells him about breathing.

That evening, she is playing solitaire while the ball is going on up-

stairs. H persuades her to come upstairs.

She does so and has a wonderful time. O, who is in the card room, hears about it and immediately drops his card playing and goes after her, but she is with a stranger and all O can do is to follow her.

After many experiences, she eventually gets to her cabin and O is waiting for her. He heaps a tirade on her and tells her that she is what he expected, nothing but a cheap dance hall girl.

The following day, everybody is talking about the beautiful girl that appeared last night

The passengers mistake her for the lady who has been confined to her cabin all the voyage and several send the lady flowers and visit her, even the captain.

The mistake is found out however and they all discuss who is the mysterious lady that appeared last night.

A certain countess on the boat has been bestowing her charms on O, but he has ignored her. She is a wealthy heiress, her father being a great friend to O's father.

She sends many notes down to O's cabin. One of them is left for P to see.

She has virtually invited herself down to his cabin for tea. P has to hole up in the next room. Later, however, when the countess arrives, her tête à tête is interrupted by a knock at the door. The countess tells O that it is her husband and that she must not be found there because he is so jealous. She immediately hides in the bedroom. When the husband enters, he accuses O of secreting his wife in the bedroom. O declares she is not there.