Pawned Frank L. Packard

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Wednesday10 - Thursday 11 MEOADWAY HOOFER ack Egan, Marie Saxon Louise Partich Lourel-Hardy Comedy

ted from hat week)

worship, they whose souls were in pawn to their god!

He turned suddenly fr -dow, switched on the lights, draw from his pecket a great sum of money in banknotes, and stood staring at

his will! It was only over the few attendant. And here John Bruce ex-evening clothes. outeasts, the unbelievers, that he held no sway. But he could afford be in his head as the said Jake hastened. The "zero" had been one of his sela god?

And it had cost him nothing. Only the pawning of his soul; and, like Faustus, the day of settlement was Faustus, the day of settlement was again sharpened.

In the card rooms there were, as time being, lured to the roulette taintent yet, scarcely any "guests." He chathad already beforehand held in light ted pleasantly with the "dealers"— plunger was out tonight to break the esteem—a code of canting morals. It John Bruce, the millionaire plunger, bank, were whetting their own appewas well such things were out of the was persons grata, simust effusively tites in the play of Mr. John Bruce, way! Life stretched the fuller, the so, everywhere in the house. Lawerre who had obviously just escaped being the decretor. rosier, the more red-blooded before ge, as Parisian as he was immaculate broke himself by a very narrow marhim on that account. He was well content. The future lured him. Nor was it money alone. There was the spice of adventure, the battle of with spice of adventure, the battle of wits, barrier between Bruce proceeded to nonrish the al-

mailing him into a continuance of it

had been in Larmon's mind when he

And then a queer and bitter smile

of money! Was he so sure that he

was the god and not the worshipper?

Was that it? Was that what Larmon

counted upon?—that only a fool

would risk the sacrifice of the Alad-

din's lamp that had been thrust into

his hands, and that only a fool but

would devote body and soul to Lar-

mon's interests under the circum-

The smite grew whimsical. It was

comprimentary in a sense. It was

hased on the premise that he, John

Bruce, was not a fool. He shrugged

was right. It would not be his, John

Bruce's, fault if anything short of

death terminated the bond which had

originated that tropic night on the

moonlit beach in Samoa three months

'clock. It was still early for play;

but it was not so early that his ar-

rival in the New York "branch,"

where he had been a constant visitor

for the last four nights, could possi-

bly arouse any suspicion, and one's

were very much better when the play

was desultery and but few presen

ago!

er hours.

his shoulders. Well, therein Larmo

ned drawn that bond

methods were the 'raison d'etre' of timacy that, from the first meshis own magically enhanced circum-John Bruce replaced the money in gies for the unpardonable act of tearhis pocket abruptly, and frowned. That was something, from still another standpoint which he could not afford to lose sight of. He had to meant Monoiour Henri de I meant me net restat or Jehn peet of a venerable and decrepit arc. The body of the car was entirely without light; the glass front, if there were one behind the meant me net restat or Jehn peet of a venerable and decrepit arc. The body of the car was entirely without light; the glass front, if there were one behind the meant me net restat or Jehn peet of a venerable and decrepit arc. The body of the car was entirely without light; the glass front, if there were one behind the meant me net restat or Jehn peet of a venerable and decrepit arc. The body of the car was entirely without light; the glass front, if

CHAPTER -II

queer too! What kind of a man was tle ivory ball from the roulette table Larmon? He knew Larmon, as Larmon superficially subjected himself to inspection and speculation; but he croupier smiled as John Bruce ap was fully aware that he did not know proached the table. John Bruce smil Larmon the man. There seemed something almost sinister in its consisted pleasantly in return, and sat down. fier a moment he began to make the same time reserve the right to mall five-dollar bets on the "red." terminate that bond at will while his His fellow-player was plunging heav ily-and losing. Also, the man was two." very signature upon it furnished a weapon which, if he, John Bruce, slightly under the influence of lichose to use it. placed the other at ouor. The croupier's voice droned through half a dozen plays. John his mercy. What kind of a man was Larmon? No fool' no weakling-that Bruce continued to make five-dollar bets. The little by-play interested

was certain. And yet at a word he. Bruce, could tear the other from the him. He knew the signs. nszudorighteous pedestal upon which His fellow-player descended to the supper room for another drink, it behe posed, strip the other naked of the garments that clothed his crimining against the rules of the house to serve anything in the gambling room. al activities and destroy utterly the The croupier laughed as he glanced carefully reared structure of respectability that Larmon had built up arat the retreating figure and then at another five-dollar bet that John ound himself. It might be very true Bruce pushed upon the "red."

that he. John Bruce, would never use "He'll rob you of your reputation, such a weapon, even under provoca-Mr. Bruce, if you don't look out!" the tion: but Larmon could not be sure croupier smiled quizzically. "Are you of that. How then did Larmon reconfinding a thrill in playing the minicile his reservation to terminate the contract at will and yet furnish his mum for a change?" co-signatory with the means of black-

"Just feeling my way." John Bruce returned the smile. "It's a bit early ret isn't it?" The other player returned. He con-

What kind of a man was Larmon? What would be be like with his back tinued to bet heavily. He made anto the wall? What other reservation other excursion below stairs. Other "guesta" drifted into the room, and the play became more general. came to John Bruce's lips. The god

John Bruce increased his stakes slightly, quite indifferent naturally as to whether he lost or won-since he could neither lost nor win. He was sitting beside the player he had or iginally joined at the table, and suddealy his interest in the other became erge diamond ring from his finger and held it out to the croupier.

"Give me-hic! - somethin' that" he biccoughed. "Might as well make a clean-up, eh?" The croupier took the ring, examined it critically for an instant, and

anded it back. "I'm sorry," he said, "but you know the rules of the house. I couldn't advance anything on it if it were worth a million. But the stone's valuable, all right. You'd better take a trip to

The man replaced the ring with ome difficulty upon his finger and ned bow. stared owlishly at the croupier. "Thell with your - hie!-trip to Persia!" he said thickly. "Don't like ate apology that Mr. Bruce should

than in the crawded rooms of the latty, did that mean? It both piqued his Join Bruce, addressing the changecuriesity and stirred his suspicions. lier, as he put on a light coat over He smiled as he placed a heavy

exciting auspicion. He was very hosely interested in this personally con-ducted true, obviously insequented by that exquisite little man, Mount Paul de Laverguet

John Bruce to his inward chagrinwon. He began to play now with a heretofore, the juggling of Mephin- his fill of it on one occasion, and topheles' maney had deprived him of. would have no more of it. And the Threeaster for a little while John Outwardly, however, the cake impass other gentleman who had, as it were Brace wandered leisurely from room siveness that in the few evenings he indorsed the proceeding, had at the And then, suddenly, it seems to room in the magnificently ap had been in the house, had already same time taken the occasion to throw John Brace as though his blood w pointed house where in the rich car won him the reputation of being par out a warning to beware of the conpets the sound of footsteps was lost, excellence a cool and nervy plunger, ductor.

where soft-timed drappenes and post and them suidenly he began to lose. fathom, perhaps, after all! It was it was the most beautiful face he tieres were cloquent of refinement. This was much better! He lost stead- probably some shrowd old reports and ever men. His even draps in the Thousands and thousands! Moneyt
The one universally-orthodox god!
The one universally-orthodox god!
The one of these pieces of paper
In his hand he could command what

This was much better! He lost steadlive now. He staked with lavids hand,
with usurious rate in cahoots with
the sleek Monsieur Henri de Laver
year, whose table was a profusion of the limit at every voyage of the click
one would release the staked with lavids hand,
with usurious rate in cahoots with
the sleek Monsieur Henri de Laver
year, who made a side-split on the
said rates in return for the exclusive
ness, were still eloquent of refinement.

This was much better! He lost steadpronancy some shrowd old reports and ever men. His eyes drank in the
sleek Monsieur Henri de Laver
year, who made a side-split on the
said rates in return for the exclusive
ness, were still eloquent of refinement.

This was much better! He lost steadpronancy some shrowd old reports and ever men. His eyes drank in the
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ness, were still eloquent of refinement.

The stake of the stake of the stake of the sleek Monsieur Henri de Laver
year, who made a side-split on the
said rates in return for the exclusive
ness, were still eloquent of refinement. he would, play upon human passions where wines of a vintage that was of his visible assets were on the table privilege accorded the other of acting the and strength. He had thought at his whim, and like puppets on a shoot priceless were to be had at and he leaned forward to watch the stage of his own setting move the no greater cost than the affort required fall of the hall. He was already finger when in extremity.

The willing their millions, at their millions, at milling chart face of old Jake, the treat dangled from the packet of his the since he had left the roulette at the last treat dangled from the packet of his tr

nore the minority! Was he not indeed loward him. Later, perhaps, he might ections. The "zero" paid 35 for 1. nevisit the room when a few hours' A subdued ripple of excitement play had dimmed the recollection of went up from around the table. The his recent dinner and his appetite room was filling up. The still-early

himself and those whose underground timacy that, from the first meeting,

But now luck was with John Bruce. The 'zery" and his other combina-With the manager's million applo- tions were as shy and elusive as ing himself away still sounding in his half hour the net result of John were concerned.

"I guess," said John Bruce, with caught John Bruce's attention, and he a whimsical smile, "that I didn't strolled in that direction. Here a bring enough with me. I don't know "guest" was already at play. The where I can get any more tonight, and-oh, here!" He laughed with easy grace, as he suddenly tossed his jeweled watch-fob to the croupier. "One more fling anyhow-I've still unbounded faith in 'zero'! Let me have a thousand on that. It's worth about

> The croupier, as on the previous occasion, examined the article but as before shook his head.

"I'm awfully sorry, Mr. Bruce, but it's strictly against the rules of the house" he said applogetically. "I can fix it for you sasily enough though, if you care to take a trip to Persia."

"A trip to Persia?" inquired John Bruce in a puzzled way. "I think I heard you suggest that before this evening. What's the idea?" Some of those around the table were smiling.

"It's all right," volunteered a player opposite, with a laugh. "Only look out for the conductor!"

"Shoot!" said John Bruce nonchalantly. "That's good enough! You can book my passage, Mr. Crompier." The eroupier called an attendant, spoke to him, and the man left the

"It will take a few minutes, Mr. Bruce while you are getting your hat and coat. The doorman will let you know" said the croupier, and

the interrupted game. John Bruce strolled from the palpably broke, for he snatched off a turn, talking gearnestly with Monsieur Henri de Lavergne. The manager, in turn entered the booth. Monsieur Henri de Lavergne came

into the supper room after a me-"In just a few minutes, Mr. Bruce the conductor! there will be a slight delay," he

"Not at all!" responded John Bruce. He held a wine glass up to the light. Lavergne."

Monsieur Henri de Lavergne

"Mr. Bruce is very kind to say so he said-and launched into an elabor-

Mr. Bruce understood perfectly. "Quite so!" he said cordially. Monsieur Henri de Lavergne excus-

are asset. It suggested Bugded, and the ter areas. Areables Mighto, and a Caliph and a hi Grand Vizier who stalked about in diagnise. On the other hand, the ining was meeter eliminated gentlemen had evidently had or would be p

He looked at his watch now as he saw the doorman coming toward the supper room with his hat and coat. The night was still early. It was a quarter to eleven.

He went out into the hall. "Yassah,' said the gray-haired are obsequious old darky, as he assistm John Bruce into his coat "if ye'all will just come with me, Mister Bruc ye'all will be 'commodated right prompt."

John Bruce fellowed his guide to The darky pointed to a closed mo-

or car at the curb by the corner, a few houses away. "Yo'all just say 'Persia' to the

shoffer, Mistah Bruce, and—"
"All right!" John Bruce smiled his to the sidewalk.

John Bruce approached the wait- the offer?" afford to lose sight of. He had to justify his job. Gilbert Larmon had stated that he was not a philanthropist, and it was written in the bond pist, and it was written in the bond mon's black-list!

The keeping of the New York branch thirty thousand dollars of heavily underscored on Gilbert Larmon had heavily underscored on Gilbert Larmon's black-list!

The keeping of the New York branch thirty thousand dollars of heavily underscored on Gilbert Larmon's black-list!

The shapely head nodded appearances flagrantly broke as far as funds in his immediate possession and so, too, he now discovered as he watch-fob had vanished, as doors of the car as well.

"The parior looks a little ominous" said John Bruce to himself. "I won-dollar banknotes. To these she added ler how far it is to the spider's din- a stamped and numbered ticket.

ing room?" He halted as he reached the ve-

The chauffeur leaned out, and John turn he looked at the chauffeur but of the car. there was very little light. The car seemed to have chosen a spot as little disturbed by the rays of the street lamps as possible, and he gained but a vague impression of a red, weathshaggy brows under grizzled hair, the whole topped by an equally weather-beaten felt hat of nonedescript shape and color.

part at least, appeared to be satisfactory.

sir, please."

The door swung open-just how, John Bruce could not have explained. He stepped briskly into the caronly to draw back instinctively as he found it already occupied. But the door had closed behind him. It was inky black in the interior now with the door shut. The car was jolting into motion.

with a bow to John Bruce resumed little grimly, and sat down on the "Parlon me!" said John Bruce a tones.

back seat. room, and descended to the lower to make out a woman's form as he the car. A woman! He had just been able night," he said, as he backed out of floor. He entered the supper room, had stepped in. It was chover damand while old Jake plied him with ned elever! Of both the exquisite delicacies he saw the doorman emerge Monsieur Henri de Lavergne and the the door, and touch his hat, still more enlivened. The man, af- from the telephone booth out in the money-lending spider at the other climbed back to his seat. ter a series of disastrous plays, was hall, hurry away, and presently reend of this pleasant little jount into unexplored Persia! A woman in ita luring, painted, fair and winsome damsel, no doubt-to make the usurious pill of illegal interest a little sweeter! Oh yee, he quite under stood now that warning to beware of

"I did not satisipate such charmsaid effusively. "Too bad to keep you ing company," said John Bury see tiously. "Have we far to go?"

There was no answer. Something like a shadow deeper "This is very excellent, Monsieur de than the surrounding blackness seemed as though at the touch of some magieo pass before John Bruce's eyes and cian's wand, had risen before from the roof of the car, was a small That face! table covered with black velvet and suspended some twelve-inches above play of he light

"You have something to newn?" John Bruce stared. He still could

where bronzes and paintings, exquisite in their art, charmed the eye, He continued to win for a while; his wine glass. Not very difficult to the light, He goard at it far

porhaps, and artfully powdered and rouged; what he saw was a visi loveliness that seemed to persmify the unsulfied, God-given free

as and purity of youth. He spoke involuntarily; no power of his gould have thout back the

"My Ged, you are wonderful!" he exclaimed in a low voice. He saw the color swiftly tinge the throat a coral pink, and mount upwards; but she did not look at him. Her eyes! He wanted to see tar eyes to look into them! But she did not turn her head.

"You probably paid two dellars for this" she said quietiv. "Nineteen hundred," corrected John

Bruce mechanically. dred on it, then," she said, still interruption and went down the steps quietly. "The interest will be at seven per cent. Do you wish to accept

ing car leisurely, scrutinizing it the was in consunace with the vision? at to take on more and more the as- His mind was topsy-turvy. He did

He watched her spellbound. The and se, too, he now discovered as he watch fob had vanished, and in its drew nearer, were the windows and place now under the little conical shaft of light she was swiftly counting out a pile of crisp, new, fifty

"You may redeem the pledge a any time by making application to the same person to whom you orig-"I'm bound for Persia, I believe" inally applied for a loan tonight" she he suggested pleasantly to the chauf- said as she handed him the money "Please count it."

Her head was in shadow now. He Bruce was conscious that he was undergoing a critical inspection. In She was sitting back in her corner

"I_I am quite satisfied." said John Bruce a little helplessly. "Please count it" she insisted. With a shrug of protest, John

Bruce obeyed her. It was not at all er-beaten face, clean ishaved, with the money that concerned him, nor the touch of it that was quickening his pulse. "It is qui.c correct" he said, putt-

ing money and tilet in his pocket The inspection, on the chauffeur's He turned toward her. "And now..." His words ended in a little gasp. The light was out. In the darkness that shadow passed again before his eyes, and he was conscious that the table had vanished also that time car had stopped

"If you please, sir!" It was the chauffeur, holding the door open. John Bruce hesitated. "I-er-look here!" he said. "I-"

"If you please, sir!" There was something of significant finality in the man's patient and respect

John Bruce smiled wryly. "Well at least I may say good-

"Certainly sir - good night, sir" said the shauffeur calmly and closed

"Well, I'm damned!" Bruce fervently.

> CHAPTER III. Sonetuary.

The car star ed off. It turned the earner. John Bruce looked around him. He was standing on precisely the same spot from which he had contered the car. He had been driven around the block, that was all!

then he sat belt upright startled and out of the blackness! His blood afire amazed. In front of him, let down was leaping through his veins again.

He ran to the corner and peered Persia! Been hiel there before! be put to any inconvenience to obtain the financial accommodation asked for. The man negotiated his way to the for. The security that Mr. Bruce of fered was unquestioned. It was not that It was the rule of the house. Mr unon the velvet table-top under the whole hard, bare unon the velvet table-top under the whole hard. Where did she live? Was it actually unon the velvet table-top under the whole hard been under the whole hard where did she live? Was it actually unon the velvet table-top under the whole hard been under the whole hard where did she live? Was it actually unon the velvet table-top under the whole hard again. down the street. The car was perthe Arabian Nights back again He laughed at himself—not mirthfully. But still he ran on.

(Continued next week.)

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CRETARY

hands washed s that, in the ill go himself before sitting the same way. to brush his he learns to set time; he

his meals by ds, he estabake a greater 's health and ablising pro-

l habits. refer to this o often hapare reasono what hab e, are often in seeing ishes proper

proper hab-

atience and rents must ying to do; low to do ic. n an underand of the n are to be he greatest raining dotinct, but is and preparducation in are to give tart in life. Health, ad-

an Medical St. Toronto.