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Time Table Effective Jan. 1, 1927

STAGES LEAVE TORRANCE

Table with columns for destinations (Wilmington, Long Beach, Redondo Beach, Santa Monica Venice) and departure times for various stages.

*Daily except Sundays and Holidays. †Sundays only. ‡Connects for Catalina Island. §Saturdays only. ¶Saturdays and Sundays only. R 55-minute wait in Redondo.

TIME TABLE

LONG BEACH—LOS ANGELES—HOLLYWOOD Motor Coach Line

Lv. Torrance for Moneta, Western City, and Manchester Ave., Los Angeles:—A. M. 6:50 except Sunday, 9:25; P. M. 1:05, 3:05, 5:09, 6:19, and 11:33.

Lv. Torrance for Keystone, Davidson City, Watson, and Long Beach:—A. M. 7:47, daily except Sunday; 10:32; P. M. 1:57, 3:52, 6:17, 7:06 and 12:21 A. M.

*Direct connection with Green Buses to Hollywood and Los Angeles shopping district. Also Yellow Buses to Inglewood and Graham.

FARES:—Torrance to Manchester Ave., Los Angeles, ONE WAY, 25c; ROUND TRIP, 40c. Los Angeles City Fares, 10c.

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BUCK YOUNG, Proprietor 1298 Narbonne Ave. Long Beach, Calif.



THE LEADING LADY

by GERALDINE BONNER

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THE STORY

PROLOGUE—While dependent over the enforced hiding of her fiancé, Dillias, a slaver in self-defense of Homer Wilkinson, member of an influential family, Sybil Saunders, popular actress, is engaged to play Viola in a charity performance of "The Night on Gull Island" on the Maine coast. In the company are Sybil's bosom friend, Anne Tracy; Anne's brother Joe, young valet, and Alex Stokes, an actor infatuated with Sybil.

CHAPTER I—After the play, which is a big hit, Wally Shine, official photographer, learns something of the jealous, professional and otherwise, existing in the company.

CHAPTER II—Hugh Bassett, director of the play, and Anne Tracy's fiancé, tells Joe he has heard of a spy on Sybil in an effort to learn the whereabouts of Jim Dallas and earn the reward offered by the Parkinson family. The boy's denial is not convincing.

CHAPTER III

ANNE had taken off her costume and slipped into a negligee to do her packing comfortably, and then decided she had better bid good-by to Joe first. She wanted to tell him her great secret, see an answering joy leap into his face, for he thought more of Bassett than anybody, and he'd be so surprised to hear that Anne, her charms held at a low valuation, had won such a prize.

She passed the long line of closed doors, voices coming from behind Mrs. Cornell's and reaching Joe's knocked. A "come in," uninvitingly loud and harsh, answered her and she entered. Joe was sitting in a low armchair, bent forward, his hands holding a cane with which he was tapping the floor. He looked up to see who it was; then, without greeting or comment, dropped his head and went on lightly, striking the cane on the carpet as if he were hammering in a nail and it required all his attention, then raised his head and looked at her—what have you come here for?—the look said.

It was not a reception to encourage confidences and she stood uncomfortably regarding him, trying to find something to say that would dispel his sullen ill humor.

"You're all ready? Where's your luggage?"

"Down by the door. Is there anything else you want to know?"

"I don't want to know, I was thinking of you. You're always late, and it's different here with only one way to get ashore and Gabriel never willing to wait."

He made no answer, continuing his play with the cane. She knew that something was wrong and sat down on the arm of a chair, uneasy, wondering what it was.

"I'm glad you've managed this holiday. And it's jolly having Tommy Travers, he's such a sport. You'll meet him tonight at Bangor. At the Algonquin Inn—wasn't that the name of it?"

"Um."

"I want to be sure, because if any important mail should come for you I could send it there to meet you on your way back. Algonquin Inn—I'll remember that. Then off tomorrow morning—it'll be joyfully in the woods now."

"Any place would be lovely after this beastly hole."

"Beastly hole! I thought you liked it!"

"Did you? Take another guess."

"You expected to like it. You wanted to come."

His words were mingling soft. "What could happen with such a charming lot of people, and Miss Saunders playing the star role in the performance and out?"

against the door as if intending to bar her exit.

"I'm going upstairs to dress now."

"There's plenty of time. You can give me a few minutes. I've something I want to say to you."

"Oh, I week!" She stopped with an air of weary exhortation. "Don't say anything more. Don't begin that dreadful subject. I'm sick of it, I loathe it and can't you see it isn't any use?"

He went on as if he hadn't heard her.

"I've been trying for days, ever since I came here. And you keep avoiding me, always having some one with you. Now we'll be going tomorrow, we may not have another chance, and I must see you and tell you—"

He came forward, speaking as he advanced.

"This isn't what you think. I'm done with that. You've made me understand; you've gotten it across, I'm not going to bother you any more with that subject you loathe and think so dreadful. But I can't help loving you and wanting to help you."

She gave an exasperated gesture and made a move to pass him. As she did so, he said: "I've heard something of Jim Dallas. Just before I left town I met an actor who says he saw him."

"Are you telling the truth?"

"Why should I lie? What do I gain by it? I swore the fellow to secrecy and came up here to tell you and I've been trying—"

She broke in: "Was he sure? Where was it?"

The change in her manner would have crushed him in any man. Shunning him like a leper, she now drew close and laid her hand on his arm.

"I can't tell you here. It's too dangerous, too many people coming and going."

"It was Jim?"

"It was. It's quite a story, more than just seeing him, but we've got to get somewhere away from all these—"

One of them opened—that into the hall behind them. They heard it and wheeled round, faces sharpened in defensive interrogation. It was Flora Stokes, and Stokes, his senses more alert than the girl's, withdrew his arm from her clasp.

"Oh, Flora," he said, his voice supremely light and easy. "Were you looking for me?"

"Mrs. Stokes said no, she had come to put her book back. She walked to a table and placed her book on a corner. The room was very still as she did this."

"It seems I've intruded," said Mrs. Stokes, coolly syllable, meticulously clear and precise. "But if you want to be alone I should think you'd have chosen another place."

"Having chosen this is a pretty good proof we didn't want to be alone," retorted her husband.

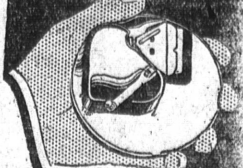
She gave a light jeering sound of disbelief and walked to the entrance. On the sill she turned and looked at them with smoldering eyes.

"Don't be afraid, I'll stay. I'm going for a walk on the front of the island. That's as far away as I can get; I'd go farther if I could."

She passed out of the door and Stokes turned to the girl.

"Flora—that's what I was afraid of. Some of the rest of them may come in at any minute. We've got to get out of here, some place outside."

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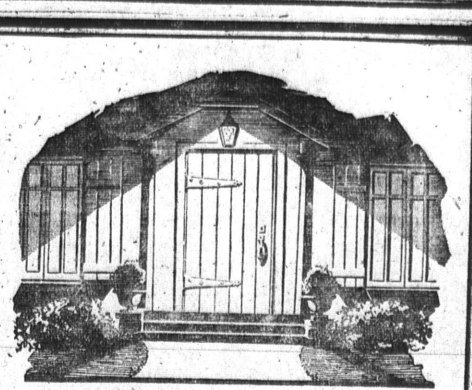
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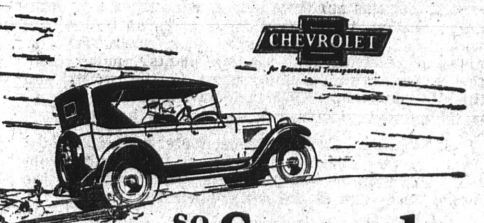
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