AUG 15 1921

Story by Elinor Glyn
Scenario by Monte M. Katterjohn
Directed by Sam Wood

©CIL 16861C THE GREAT MOMENT

The Cast

Nada Pelham..)..... Gloria Swanson
Nadine Pelham)
Sir Edward Pelham..... Alec B. Francis
Bayard Delavel..... Milton Sills
Eustace..... F.R. Butler
Hopper..... Arthur Hull
Lord Crombie..... Raymond Brathwayt
Lady Crombie..... Helen Dunbar
Bronson..... Clarence Geldart
Sadi Bronson..... Julia Faye
Blenkensop..... Ann Grigg

At a Russian orgy in St. Petersburg, Sir Edward Pelham, an English aristocrat, becomes infaturated with Naida, the most captivating of a band of Tartary gypsies, and makes her his wife. Ill-fitted for the dignified role of Lady Pelham, Naida's untimely death while bringing a daughter into the world, brings a feeling of relief, though the marriage has stultified Sir Edward's view-point of life.

The child Nadine, is reared in strict seclusion of the world, growing to radiant girlhood at Pelham Court under the constant eye of her father. At eighteen she has begun to display her mother's disposition. Hoping to stifle the gypsy song in her heart, Sir Edward arranges for her marriage to a distant cousin, Eustace Pelham. To fu ther the match, Sir Edward decides to take both along with him on a business trip to America.

As each day passes, Nadine's interest in Eustace lessens, until the very thought of the marriage grows hateful. On the liner coming to America, she attracts the attention of Howard B. Hopper, a bachelor of vast wealth. His insinuating glances are repellent, despite the fact that his ardor is most apparent.

Near their destination in Nevada, Bayard Delaval, chief mining engineer of the great Gold Stamp properties comes aboard the private car. Nadine is attracted by the stalwart yount American. The two are drawn together during daily visits. High up on a ridge when Bayard is about to declare his love for the English girl, Nadine is bitten by a rattlesnake. To save the girl's life, Bayard bites out the flesh and suchs the blood, then carries her to his secret retreat nearby. Here he gives her raw whisky as a counter irritant for the snake venom, and watches over her until late into the night.

The culture of the Pelhams becomes drugged with liquor and Nadines sees in Bayard the man of her heart. Even as her mother before her won the man of her choice, she now beguiles and coaxes Bayard to become her lover. Like an excho from the halls of St. Petersburg, there drifts into her unconscious memory, the gypsy dance.

At this moment the two are surprised by Sir Edward and Eustace, who have been searching for the two whom they believe have come to disaster out on the desert. Horrified, Sir Edward believes the worst. There is nothing left for a gemtleman to do but marry Nadine. The wedding is arranged for the following day.

The Marriage takes place, Sir Edward leaving Nadine with her strangely gained husband, and the party continue on their journey. Left behind, Nadine is apprehensive of the future with the man she loves, and fears he does not care for her.

Love strives to express its hopes, each caring deeply for the other. Bayard feels that the only chivalric way is to give her the freedom he believes she desires, and then to win her love anew.

Under the laws of Nevada, Bayard brings divorce proceedings, arranging for Nadine to file a cross complaint and be granted the decree. Her pride is outraged by this sudden turn of affa

affairs , and within a week the two are divorced, though each care deeply for the other.

In her miserable frame of mind, she turns to the conforming arms of Lady Crombie in Washington, a great friend of Sir Edward. Bayard, continues his work at the mines planning to seek her love anew.

The strict official life of Washington grows distasteful to Nadine. She is utterly bored by it all, and so, when the millionaire, Howard B.Hopper comes along, urging marriage at every meeting she is not adverse to his wishes, but keeps him waiting.

Then her father comes and requests that Nadine return to Pelham Court. In resentment, Nadine vows she will marry Hopper.

Meanwhile a miracle message comes to Bayard. Having learned of Nadine's whereabouts, he hurriedly departs for the east and he learns that Nadine's marriage to Hopper will take place on the following morning.

At a reception of Washington's social peers and foreign aristocracy, fate prevents the meeting of Bayard and Nadine. Hopper discovers Bayard's identity, and jealously informs Nadine that her former husband is present. Desperately intent upon seeing Bayard, she rushes from room to room., catching only a fleeting flimpse of him as he takes his departure. In her anguish, she pretends illness, and hurrying to her rooms, finally learns his whereabouts in the city - a prominent Washington hotel.

Again her barbaric blood assumes control. She tears Hopper's jewels from her person, veils her face, and decides to take love at any cost, hurrying to Bayard's hotel. Her betrothed sees her departure and follows.

At the hotel, Nadine flings herself into Bayard's arms. To Bayard comes a plan, and Nadine consents to go to the house of his friend and wait until he has secured a license and a minister. Hopper overhears and bribes the taxi-cab clerk to have Nadine taken to his home instead.

Though surprised, Nadine is not afraid. Meanwhile, Bayard learns that Nadine has been taken to Hopper's. He hurried to Hopper's home, rescues Nadine and then both depart to becomes sweethearts evermore.

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