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Lewis J. Selznick presents

ELAINE HAMMERSTEIN

in

"Remorseless Love"

By Mary Lanier Macruder
Scenario by Edward Montague

J.

A RALPH INCE PRODUCTION

CAST

Ruth Baird.Elaine Hammerstein
Enoch Morrison....Niles Welsh
Dave Hatfield.....Jerry Devine
Hester Morrison. ...Ray Allen
Cosmo Hatfield....James Seeley
Cameron Hatfield Ellingham Pinto

—SYNOPSIS—

BETWEEN the Morrison and Hatfield families bitterness of long standing had lessened none in the generation that supplies the characters in Mary Lanier Macruder's story. Ruth Baird, the district school teacher, has in her veins the blood of both factions.

Enoch Morrison had long been absent from the scenes of his childhood and returns in the fulness of young manhood as a clean-cut, upstanding character who knows little of the inter-family bitterness and cares less. His life in the city had been spent without the feudal instincts dominating his actions, as in the case of the Hatfields and Morrisons, who remained at home in the mountains to nourish their bitterness.

Enoch rides out on horseback from his family homestead, passes the school just as Ruth Baird is leaving for the day. She directs him as he requests and a little further along the rough road Enoch falls from his horse and wrenches his ankle. Ruth and Dave Hatfield, her young cousin, overtake and discover Enoch's plight just as Cameron Hatfield, gun in hand and on the lookout for game, comes up to the little group and recognizes Enoch as a hated Morrison.

Ruth defies Cameron, who forbids her to aid "a Morrison," and in the end sees that Enoch is taken to his home in the motor the boy, Dave, has summoned at Ruth's behest. When Ruth reaches home her uncle, Cosmo Hatfield, has full knowledge of the afternoon's events and forbid Ruth to have anything further to do with Enoch. Ruth rebels, not so much because of the possibilities of her seeing Enoch, but because she disdains to enter into any share in maintaining the feud—because, as she puts it, feuds are foolish, unnecessary and a relic of less favored generations.

Cosmo Hatfield backs his son, Cameron, in fomenting trouble for Enoch Morrison and the Hatfields declare that young Morrison shall suffer if he attempts to communicate with Ruth. When news comes that young Cameron Hatfield has been found murdered, Cosmo vows vengeance upon Enoch, whom Hatfield charges with the murder. Hatfield rouses the countryside, and when Enoch is discovered passing through the woods toward his home Enoch is arrested on the charge of murder. Cosmo Hatfield sends his emissaries to call his faction to a lynching bee and the Sheriff rushes Enoch some distance away to the county jail for safekeeping.

Meanwhile Dave Hatfield has been discovered in the woods near where the body of Cameron Hatfield was found. The lad cries with fright, cringes when questioners approach him and is almost a nervous wreck. Ruth is the only one who can in any measure quiet his hysteria—but Ruth is, herself, distraught through a web of circumstances that point to a flaw in her morals while closing her lips when well she knows that Enoch is innocent of the crime of which he is accused.

As little Dave lies in bed trembling with hysteria and fear, Ruth faces her irate uncle and tells him Enoch is innocent—and explains how she knows. Enoch could not commit the murder as charged for the reason that he had spent the night in company with Ruth alone in a cottage on an island where they had been marooned by a terrific storm. Cosmo Hatfield tells her that if, at the trial of Enoch, she attempts to tell the story to save Enoch's life that he, the uncle, would shoot her dead in the witness chair.

But no such thing happens. Just at the moment when matters look blackest for Enoch, the courtroom crowds are startled by Dave Hatfield arising to shout that Enoch was innocent. Then the lad explains that by an accident a gun the lad was holding was discharged, the instant death of Cameron Hatfield followed and young Dave was distracted by fear and remorse. Ruth's quieting influence had enabled the lad to overcome his terror and tell the truth. Enoch and Ruth are wed and the feudal spirit dies with the union of a Morrison with a girl who is both Morrison and Hatfield.

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