©CL 17680C "A PASTBOARD BROWN"

[redacted]

Sybil Lawton, a society belle, was left penniless at the death of her father. Her mother wished her to make a rich marriage, but Sybil craved stage fame and glory. Her youthful charm and her talent interested Stewart Thrall, a distinguished actor-producer, who secured for her a position in an Omaha stock company. The work was hard and the language of the stage managers abusive, but her ambition triumphed over her disappointment and unhappiness.

Her one friend in Omaha was a fellow-actor, Jim Roberts, who had degenerated since his wife had divorced him. Under Sybil's encouragement, he improved and became her self-appointed guardian. Discharged in Omaha, Sybil returned to New York and rehearsals commenced for her to make her Broadway debut with Thrall in "Romeo and Juliet." Roberts was made stage manager.

Thrall's married life was an unhappy one. His wife married him in the hope of getting on Broadway, but she could not act. She went to Paris to obtain a secret divorce. One day, after rehearsal, Thrall told Sybil that he loved her. Roberts overheard and exercised his right as protector.

The opening night of the play finally arrived. Thrall's wife, having obtained her divorce, returned and took a seat in a box. Roberts saw her-- she was the woman who had wrecked his life! Blaming Thrall for stealing her from him, he shot Thrall as he bent over "Juliet" on her bier. But it was only a flesh wound. When Sybil learned that Thrall was free to marry her they looked forward to mutual happiness.

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