

(As she puts her hand, voices are heard outside front door and RANDOLPH comes in, runs between chair and sofa and jumps over CRANE. The others repeat this business in order: PHILIP, VERNON, and HELEN. As each jumps over CRANE, LILLIAN tries to get his attention. As the last goes out French doors, KATE enters from kitchen.)

KATE. Is there a stampede? It sounds like a rerun of "Ben Hur." (CRANE starts to come to.)

LILLIAN. She's coming to. (Moves to Right of CRANE.)

KATE. What happened, another body? (Moves to her left.)

CRANE. Richard. Richard.

LILLIAN. She's delirious.

KATE. No, Richard's here. (Looks around.) Somewhere.

CRANE. Richard, where are you?

LILLIAN. Crane, dear, there are hordes of people running through your house like it was the Indianapolis Speedway.

KATE. Come on, now, can you stand?

CRANE. (As they help her up.) Of course. I was talking to Richard and suddenly he changed into another person right in front of my eyes, like Jekyll and Hyde.

LILLIAN. Crane, you're delicious.

LYLE. (Appears at doors.) Lillian, there you are. There's a regular track meet going on out there.

LILLIAN. I know, dear. (There is a GROAN from the closet. LILLIAN rushes to LYLE and KATE backs over to desk.) Who's that?

KATE. Quasimodo!

CRANE. Richard, darling. (She opens the closet door just as RICHARD is getting to his feet. He comes out.)

RICHARD. (Rubbing his head.) I'm going back to Chicago.

LILLIAN. Richard, how wonderful of you to come.

JENNY. (Enters from the kitchen with the familiar bucket of ice.) Ice!

KATE. I'll make drinks. (Takes bucket up to bar.)

JENNY. (Pointing at RICHARD.) Who's that?

CRANE. This is my husband, Jenny.

JENNY. (Pointing at LYLE.) Then who's that?

CRANE. Oh, never mind. Just go make breakfast—do something.

JENNY. I could sell this whole story to Confidential.

(She slams out to the kitchen.)

CRANE. (Sitting RICHARD on the Right side of the sofa and sitting beside him.) Richard, you come and sit down here and rest your head.

RICHARD. Someone hit me.

CRANE. I know, dear.

RICHARD. Aren't you upset?

CRANE. Well, everyone else has been through it already. LILLIAN. Can anyone explain the whole thing to anyone?

KATE. Here. (Hands drinks to CRANE and RICHARD and returns to the bar for her own drink.)

CRANE. Thanks.

LILLIAN. First, Richard, I'd like you to meet my husband. You see, Crane borrowed him for a while or rather I insisted she take him and that started it all.

LYLE. I couldn't get back to our home for a while because Vernon Cookley—

RICHARD. You mean you stayed here?

LYLE. It was rather an unusual arrangement for a honeymoon. But Kate was here.

KATE. (Turning from bar, with a smile.) Yes, I fell asleep.

RICHARD. What! (KATE turns back to bar.)

CRANE. (Rises.) Stop everything! Right this minute. I know where the diamonds are and we might as well settle this whole thing. (Crosses to front door.)

KATE. You know?

LILLIAN. Where?

LYLE. You found them?

CRANE. (Leaving out the front door.) Hello, out there!

Come on in! Everyone out of the pool!

KATE. Where are they?

CRANE. (*Moves to the right of the arch.*) Close the doors, Lyle. (*He does and puts on the bolt.* LILLIAN jades down to him.)

LILLIAN. Where are the diamonds?

CRANE. Here they come. Stand aside! (*PHILIP runs in first, followed by VERNON and finally HELEN. They are all yelling at one another. When PHILIP gets to the doors, he stops and they pile up against him.*) Now, be quiet. Quiet! Quiet! (*They suddenly stop talking.*) That's better. Now let's all sit down like ladies and gentlemen and I'll explain this whole mess.

(*There is a general ad-lib as they settle around the room:*

HELEN sits in chair Center, VERNON moves to above her, KATE sits in the desk chair and puts her drink on the desk, PHILIP to above the sofa and LILLIAN and LYLE by the doors.)

VERNON. You know something?

CRANE. Enough. The first problem to settle is where are the diamonds? Simple! The ice is in the ice. (*Holds up her glass.*) Inside each ice cube is a diamond or two. (*General ad-lib.*)

KATE. (*Picking up her glass.*) What about the drinks we had this afternoon? Have I swallowed a gem?

CRANE. I guess that tray was empty but the others are loaded.

(*Closest door opens and RANDOLPH comes out and hits PHILIP over the head. PHILIP collapses on the back of the sofa.*)

RANDOLPH. Hands up everyone! I'll take those!

(*RICHARD rises and jades Right.*)

RICHARD. Crane, are these all house guests?

RANDOLPH. I'll take the ice, lady.

(*PHILIP shakes himself out of it, grabs the gun from*

RANDOLPH and in one quick move, throws him to the floor.)

PHILIP. O.K., boy, you've had it.

RANDOLPH. (*Almost crying.*) No, that's cheating. I almost had the ice.

PHILIP. You'll be cool enough where you're going.

And thanks for the hit on the head.

RANDOLPH. You nuts or something?

CRANE. You remember?

PHILIP. Sure do.

LILLIAN. Isn't that the body?

Lyle. Philip Smith!

VERNON. Now one crook loses and another crook wins.

JENNY. (*Enters from kitchen with a revolver. She now drops her country accent and wags and becomes very efficient.*) All right, everyone. Hands up! (*RANDOLPH gets up and scrambles above the sofa. HELEN rises.*)

CRANE. Jenny!

JENNY. I'll take the diamonds if you don't mind.

PHILIP. (*Moves Down Right Center.*) No. I was here first.

JENNY. (*Moves in to PHILIP.*) But I have the authority.

JENNY AND PHILIP. (*As the muzzles of their guns meet.*) You're under arrest!

PHILIP. I'm a private detective from Boston hired by the insurance company.

JENNY. And I'm from Pinkerton's. We've been trailing this man since June.

VERNON. (*Crosses down to above them.*) What about the local constabulary?

JENNY. Shall we all work together?

VERNON AND PHILIP. (*As all THREE shake hands.*) Agreed!

KATE. But who's the Boss if you're all the good guys?

CRANE. Haven't you figured that out yet?

RANDOLPH. I'm not talkin'.

CRANE. (*Moves Up Center.*) That's a simple matter.