

The Unlatched Door

By Frank Price
CHAPTER THIRTEEN
Continued

"Did you ask him about this?"
"No. It wouldn't have done any good. For one thing, I didn't think it advisable to give him reason for warning her."
"But you think he is shielding her?"
"I'm sure he is trying to shield somebody, and the betting is a million to one that it's a woman. You would have thought the same if you'd seen him when he refused to say why he went to the Mansions."
"But you have no information about this particular girl having been near Darnley Mansions?"
"No. What I have got is that she returned to the Beldovina soon after eleven. The cloakroom was full

then, and the attendant didn't see her come in, but caught sight of her presently sitting where she and her friend sat half an hour earlier. The woman didn't miss her chance that time, but went and asked her to pay for the brandy, telling her at the same time about the man who had inquired for her. That gave her a jolt, and she finished the remains of the brandy at a go. She seemed relieved when the woman assured her that she hadn't given her absence away, gave her half a crown and went out again."
"Seems to have been having a busy evening!"
"Yes. The next I have is that she asked the commissionaire to call a taxi; Hemersley joined her—it's safe to say it was he—and they drove off."
"And you think that during her half-hour's absence from the cloakroom she went to Darnley Mansions?"
"She could have done so."
"And shot Borden?"
"She could have done that, too."
"You haven't a scrap of evidence that even a preliminary court would look at."
"I know. That's why I didn't say anything to Hemersley. I don't

want her warned before I see her."
"How will you do that?"
"It should be easy if she is a friend of these Wintertons. I can go to them for confirmation of Hemersley's story about the quarrel with Borden."
"Don't neglect other things for that. There's the other girl and her two men friends. There's a fishy smell about them."
"Yes. They were all in with Borden, the girl in particular, I fancy."
"And don't pin yourself down too closely to time. The shots may have been fired later than you want to believe and escaped notice. What about that valet chap, Milvers? He was found before Borden. That was at two-five, wasn't it? The front door of the flat was open and he was just inside it. It couldn't have been like that with him there for three hours, without being noticed. Then how did he get there and when and why? Those questions are important."
"I know they are. If only I could ask him—"
The bell of the superintendent's telephone rang and he took off the receiver.
"Yes, he's here," he said after listening. "I'll tell him." He turned to Kenway. "Your wish is coming true. Milvers recovered consciousness 20 minutes ago. He isn't fit to speak or be questioned yet, but the doctor thinks you should be able to get some sense from him by to-morrow afternoon."

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

"That is good news," said Inspector Kenway. "I shall be glad to hear what Milvers has to tell. I haven't been able even to begin fitting him in anywhere up to now."
"Are you sure that isn't because you are banking too much on your own idea that the murder must have been committed while the backfiring of the motor cycle would camouflage the reports of the pistols?" suggested Superintendent Moran. "It's a tempting notion, but you shouldn't let it run away with your judgment."
"I shan't. My mind is wide open and if anything Milvers says points to my being on the wrong track I shall take the hint."
"You don't suspect him of the murder? There seems to be no doubt he's a wrong 'un. We've never actually had him through our hands, but it has been confirmed that he was under suspicion some time ago of being mixed up with blackmailers. From all we've learned about him Borden was the kind of man those chaps would go for."
To be continued

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On Friday evening a closing service was held, to which the parents and friends were invited. Following a devotional period, the different groups recited Scripture memory verses, and presented short scenes portraying the wonderful influence of The Bible throughout the world.
The guests were then invited to view the handwork which had been accomplished during the sessions. Many favourable comments were expressed and all felt the work done by the School had been very worthwhile.

BURGESS BEDTIME

Continued from page 11

being threatened, or being warned, he didn't know which. He hesitated, and he really didn't know why he hesitated. He was twice as big as this small stranger. The latter should be afraid of him, but he wasn't. Anyway, if he was afraid, he didn't show it.
"Get out of my way," growled the little Fox once more and made his voice sound as ugly as he knew how. The little stranger merely stamped again.

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