

# Punctured Romance

By W. E. Hill

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Plump widows on a still hunt for number two, or number three, or four, as the case may be, are too prone to rush things. Unbridled avidity has a tendency to drive the male of the species into himself, or even repel him. Such tactics as bumping into the knees in a taxi are to be avoided. Most men have tenderer knees than a well-upholstered widow realizes, and will withdraw them when menaced.

Mother's Pet. "Don't tell mama I went to the movies with you last night," whispers Noble, "you know she's kinda jealous!" Noble has brought Helen to call on his mother, so they can get acquainted by easy stages. On account of mama's being lonely, it seems best for Helen and Noble to live over here, after the wedding, which will be nice for Noble, too. And, if Helen has her brain cells in working order, this romance is going to curdle on the spot.



Nothing spoils a budding romance more completely than for a hefty girl with a bad cold in the head to persist in being languorous and cuddlesome.



"I'm afraid we'll have bad weather for the game, Francis! My corns are hurting terribly, and that means rain." A matter-of-fact girl, who ignores the romantic in her conversation with the boy friend, may just as well give up all thoughts of her trousseau, because a young man in love is intensely emotional and expects to be met on a lofty plane.



Great big girls in love should never stoop to pick up things in the presence of a suitor. Not only do men like to have their chivalry appealed to, but the attitude of stooping creates a bad impression from certain angles of vision, and has been known to nip a budding love affair right at the start.

Clothes make the man, and the old gray fedora has a lot to do with it. Many are the engaged couples that bust up because the adored one could not bear to see her precious boy wearing too small a head size.



"Welcome to our gay home, big boy! Button up your overcoat and promise not to Ritz me, there's a dear. Have you heard 'I Want to Be Bad,' isn't it a swell song? Tell me, what do you think of 'Strange Interlude,' isn't it marvelous?" A girl friend's up to date whoopee-mama, when introduced too early in the game, can put an awful damper on the love interest if the young man is one of those old fashioned boys.

For weeks Dorothy has been telling her girl friends at the office about her Eddie. And how he was a Greek god and collar ad boy combined. And then one drab day she began to see him as you see him here. Many a girl and boy part company because one or the other mislays the well known rose tinted specs.

"O, you'll be crazy about my family," crowed Lillian, "they have the most perfect sense of humor! Absolutely mad, my dear! You'd have loved the time Roy and Gert put a live frog in a visitor's bed!" A girl with a bashful swain in tow should never boast about her practical-joking family if she has dreams of tripping gayly up the center aisle attended by six bridesmaids and all that.