

APPENDIX
SYNOPSIS OF THE NOVELS

The Moon and Sixpence

Charles Strickland, an English stockbroker, was a typical businessman who was not at all interested in literature and art which his wife seemed to value a great deal. She entertained writers and artists but did not introduce him to her intellectual guests because he was dull and indifferent to what they were raving about.

Unexpectedly, at the age of forty after seventeen years of marriage, Strickland ran away from his wife and two children and started painting in Paris. His wife never forgave him for leaving her to starve and would never divorce him so that he could not be free. But Strickland did not care. He was so much absorbed in painting that he took no interest in the people or things around him and even took no notice of his own physical needs. He taught himself how to paint and asked for no advice. However, he did not care to sell or exhibit his pictures because he did not seek fame or money. He painted because it was his only aim in life. Consequently, he was penniless most of the time, and, to earn some money for paints and canvas, he worked as a tourist guide, a translator of medical advertisements, and a house-painter.

Once when he was seriously ill, Dirk Stroeve, a Dutch painter who had an insight into Strickland's genius, took him to stay in his studio. Stroeve and Blanche, his wife, took turns nursing him until he recovered. Blanche, who at first hated Strickland, fell in love with him and decided to leave Stroeve. Because of his great love for Blanche, Stroeve himself went out of the studio and let Blanche and Strickland stay on. Thus, Strickland showed his selfishness and ingratitude in taking both Stroeve's wife and Stroeve's studio.

Strickland painted Blanche and, when he finished, lost all interest in her. As soon as he left her, Blanche took acid to kill herself. Stroeve, broken hearted, decided to go back to Holland. But before he left, he found Blanche's picture in his studio and seeing that it was a work of genius, he forgave Strickland and tried to persuade Strickland to go with him. Strickland, however, refused.

Then Strickland went to Marseille where he met and made friends with Captain Nichols. Four months later, Strickland quarrelled with Tom & Bill, the master of a sailor's boarding-house, and as a result had to take the first ship to Australia. But on the way, he stopped off at Tahiti where he settled down and lived with a native girl named Ata on her plantation very far away from town. Two sons were born to them. Strickland was very happy.

for Ata left him alone and he could paint or do what he pleased. He sold or gave away some of his pictures.

Three years later, Strickland developed leprosy. The local people, afraid of catching the disease, kept away from the plantation and would have nothing to do with Strickland or Ata who was still faithful to him. Knowing that he was dying, Strickland expressed his innermost thoughts about life and God by painting the inside walls of his house until he became blind a year before his death. Dr. Coutres, the French doctor who was sent for the day Strickland died, was taken by great surprise and awe when he saw the last works of the genius. Unfortunately, according to the dead man's instructions, Ata burnt down the whole house and so destroyed the artist's masterpieces.

The Painted Veil

The marriage of Walter Fano and Kitty Garstin was doomed to failure because it was not based on love but it was for convenience sake. Kitty, although still very beautiful at twenty-five, had less chance to marry a more suitable man because of her age. She knew that her mother was anxious to marry her off. Besides, her eighteen-year-old sister, Doris, was going to marry Geoffrey Donnison, the heir to a rich medical baronet. Kitty did not want to witness the marriage and therefore married Walter Fano, the last man who proposed to her.

Walter Fane was a Government bacteriologist in Hong-Kong where Kitty found herself unimportant in the white man's society because of her husband's humble position. Being vain and frivolous, Kitty was disgusted because she, as a daughter of a King's counsel in South Kensington, had been in a far better society than that of Hong-Kong. Kitty could not get along with other white ladies whom she looked down upon. Moreover, she could not stand her husband, who, in spite of his intelligence and his great love for her, was very shy, serious and clumsy. Consequently, within three months, Kitty realized that the marriage was not a success and soon took a lover, Charles Townsend, the forty-year-old popular and charming Assistant Colonial Secretary who was married to Dorothy and had three grown sons by her.

Charles and Kitty usually met in a room in the back of a Chinese curio dealer's shop. But sometimes Kitty arranged for Charles to come to her at her house in the afternoon when he would not be seen. That was why one day Walter discovered their relationship. Walter offered to divorce Kitty on condition that Charles would divorce Dorothy and marry Kitty immediately; otherwise Walter would take Kitty with him to Hui-Tan-fu, a place where there was an epidemic so that she might be killed by cholera.

Kitty had believed that Charles would be willing to marry her as soon as she was set free but she found out with disappointment that Charles would not divorce Dorothy on whom he depended a great deal. Charles tried to convince her to accompany Walter to Mei-tan-fu even though he knew that it meant death for her. Disillusioned to see that Charles was an irresponsible coward, Kitty went to Mei-tan-fu with her husband.

In Mei-tan-fu, Kitty met and made friends with Waddington, the Deputy Commissioner, who lived with a Manchu princess. Noticing that Kitty was unhappy, Waddington was kind to her and kept her company while Walter was at work. Kitty felt sorry for what she had done when she learned from Waddington that Charles had had affairs with many women and that Dorothy had always forgiven him.

Walter was much admired for his self-sacrifice in trying to fight the disease. Even Kitty began to admire his ability. Wanting to keep herself busy and to make her life useful, Kitty decided to help the nuns in the French convent look after the orphans. After a while, she felt happier and gradually forgot her love for Charles. Unexpectedly she found herself with child and in such circumstances Walter asked her to go back to Hong-Kong or to her parents in England but she refused. Probably

because Walter wanted to commit suicide, he overworked and got infected and died by experimenting on himself.

Kitty had to return to Hong-Kong. Ironically she was looked upon as a heroine and was invited by Dorothy to stay in her house. But Kitty was forced to take the first ship to England because she would have behaved ungratefully towards Dorothy by becoming Charles' mistress if she had stayed longer.

On her way home, she learned that her mother had died and when she arrived in England, found out that her father had been appointed Chief Justice of the Bahamas, the post which his wife had always driven him to get but which had come too late. Kitty made up her mind to go with her father and begin a new life in the new place where she would make up for the unhappiness she had caused her father and where she would bring up her daughter to be a wiser girl than she herself had been.

The Narrow Corner

Dr. Saunders, a famous eye-doctor who had practised about fifteen years in Fu-chou and had acquired a good reputation among the Chinese there, went to perform an eye operation on Kim Ching, a wealthy Chinese merchant in Takana, an island in the Malay Archipelago. While he was waiting for a Dutch ship to take him back to Fu-chou

after his successful operation, he met the skipper of the Fanton, Captain Nichols, who was travelling aimlessly with a young man named Fred Blake. Captain Nichols suffered from chronic dyspepsia which the doctor offered to cure if the captain would take him and Ah Koy, his Chinese servant, to Timor or Macassar or Surabaya. The captain consented, although Fred Blake was not very pleased.

During the journey, Dr. Saunders found out that Fred Blake had committed a crime and therefore had to escape from Sydney and spend his time sailing until it was safe for him to settle down somewhere. Fred Blake later told Dr. Saunders that he had been the lover of Mrs. Hudson who was much older than he. Mr. Hudson was an influential person who could have helped his father win the election. When Mrs. Hudson had learned that Fred wanted to break up their relationship, she plotted to get Fred to murder her husband in order to have Fred under her influence so that he could not leave her. After the murder, Fred escaped through the aid of his father who made up a story that Fred had died in the epidemic of scarlet fever, but meanwhile Fred was sent to Captain Nichols' pearling lugger. When Mrs. Hudson learned of his death, she committed suicide.

The doctor got off the ship at Konda Meiza. On the island, they met a well-educated Danish businessman

named Erik Christessen to whom Fred was immediately attracted. Erik was secretly engaged to Louise, the beautiful daughter of Frith and Catherine Swan. Frith was a well-educated English planter who lived on the plantation of his Swedish father-in-law, Mr. Swan, a former sea captain. Fred, without knowing that Louise was Erik's fiancée, made love to her. Not knowing that Erik had a habit of walking under her window at night, Louise arranged for Fred to come to her room. Seeing Fred coming out of Louise's room, Erik was shocked and, unable to bear the disillusionment, he committed suicide. Fred was very upset to have been the cause of Erik's death and hated Louise for not telling him the truth.

After Erik's death, Fred and Captain Nichols sailed away and Dr. Saunders took a ship back to Fu-chou. In the course of his trip home, Dr. Saunders met Captain Nichols again in Singapore. He learned from the latter that Fred had fallen overboard one night, but Dr. Saunders had a strong suspicion that Captain Nichols had pushed him over in order to regain the money that Fred had won from him at cards.

The Razor's Edge

In this story of a man's search for God and the meaning of life, Laurence Dorroll, nicknamed Larry, was

a young American boy whose father, an assistant professor of Romance Languages at Yale, died when Larry was twelve. His mother, who was from an old Quaker family in Philadelphia, died in child-birth. Consequently, Larry was left in the charge of his father's friend, Dr. Nelson, a doctor at Marvin.

Larry became acquainted with Mrs. Bradley and her beautiful daughter, Isabel. The Bradleys' had a country place at Marvin but they lived in Chicago. Mrs. Bradley was the widow of a diplomat to a small republic on the west coast of South America. Larry was a good looking, intelligent, gay and pleasant boy who had a passion for aviation. When the war broke out, he enlisted as an aviator, even though he was under eighteen; and, when the war ended, Larry returned to Chicago a hero. He became a different person because of one significant experience during the war; his friend in the air corps, a cheerful Irishman named Patsy, had died in saving Larry's life.

Although Larry was still cheerful and sociable, he was always engaged in deep thought about life and God. Money meant nothing to him and he did not earn his living but spent most of his time reading in the library. He was engaged to Isabel but before they married Mrs. Bradley and her brother, Elliot Templeton, wanted Larry to take up the job which Henry Matutin, a rich businessman in Chicago

had offered him so as to do Gray, his son, a favour as Gray and Larry were great friends. Larry rejected the offer. He wanted to go to Paris for two years at the end of which, if he could not find what he was searching for, he would return to Chicago and marry Isabel. Isabel consented.

Elliot Templeton, a likeable snob, who moved in the best society in Paris where he lived was willing to introduce Larry to his friends but Larry would have nothing to do with him.

Larry lived in a small room in a cheap hotel in Montparnasse in order to be near the Bibliothèque Nationale, where he spent his time reading, and the Sorbonne where he attended lectures. He read French, Greek and Latin literature.

Isabel soon accompanied her mother to Paris to try in vain to persuade Larry to go back to Chicago. They broke off their engagement but remained good friends. She went back to Chicago and a year later married Gray Haturin. They had two daughters and Gray became his father's partner in the business.

After two years in Paris, Larry went to work in a coal mine near Lens, in the North of France. He and a Pole named Keoti, a sturdy, rough miner, shared a room in the house of a miner's widow. Larry was surprised to

find out that Kostî tried to hide the fact that he had been well-educated by pretending to be rough.

Then Kostî and Larry went to work on a German farm near Darmstadt. They lived in the hayloft. The farmer's family consisted of Becker, the farmer; Frau Becker, his wife; and Ellie, their widowed daughter-in-law, and her two children. Ellie taught Larry German. The two women tried to seduce Larry and one night Ellie got into Larry's bed. Being frightened of the consequences, Larry ran away the next morning and went to Bonn where he stayed for a year.

In Bonn, he made friends with a French Benedictine monk named Father Enshelm who was doing research at the university library there. They discussed religion and Father Enshelm invited Larry to visit his monastery in Alsace. Larry went to stay there for three months but he could not believe in the God of the monks. He returned to Paris where, finding Suzanne Rouvier, a kept woman, in bad health, he, out of charity, took her and her daughter to the country until she recovered and then left her. Later Suzanne became an artist and married a rich businessman.

After Larry had stayed in Seville for a while, he worked his way back to America. On the way, he stopped off in India where he spent five years. He travelled a great deal and studied Hinduism. One night during his

meditation, he saw a series of hallucination that might have been himself in previous lives. He stayed for two years in the Ashrama of Shri Ganasha, a famous Yogi in Travancore. During that time he often went to stay in the mountains. There, one day, he received the revelation of the Absolute while he was looking at the rising sun. He believed that he had found God and the meaning of life. But feeling discouraged by the thought that he would never be born again if he achieved nirvana, Larry left the Ashrama and returned to Paris.

In 1929, the New York market broke and Henry Maturin was ruined. He died of coronary thrombosis and Gray was declared bankrupt. After the death of Mrs. Bradley, Gray and Isabel with their two daughters went to live in Elliot's apartment in Paris because Elliot himself now lived in a big house on the Riviera.

Larry met the Maturins again when he returned to Paris. He cured Gray of his headaches by the psychotherapy he had learned in India.

Then the three of them found Sophie Macdonald, their shy, old school friend, working as a partner in one of the lower-class night clubs. She had become a drunkard, a dope-addict and a prostitute because of the death of her husband and baby in a car accident. Feeling sorry for

Sophie and wanting to save her from a sinful life, Larry proposed to marry her. Isabel, jealous of Sophie, tried to prevent Larry from marrying Sophie by tempting Sophie who had stopped drinking to take to drink again. As a result, Sophie ran away a few days before the wedding. Later she was found murdered in Toulon.

Isabel and Gray inherited a fortune when Elliot Templeton died of old age. They went back to America and settled down in Dallas.

Larry's purpose for staying in Paris was to complete his search for the meaning of life by doing research on the lives of the men who had achieved the greatest success in life in order to see what their lives had led to. He published a book of essays on the lives of those great men and then having given away his property, Larry returned to New York where he led a good life hoping to be an example to his fellow countrymen.

SYNOPSIS OF THE COLLECTIONS OF SHORT STORIES

The Treading of a Leaf

This collection of South Sea stories was inspired by Maughan's trip to the South Seas in 1916.

The Pacific

Maughan wrote a description of the calm, peaceful and magnificent Pacific.

Mackintosh

Mackintosh, an educated and serious man, was the assistant of Walker, the administrator of Talua, one of the bigger islands in the Samoan group. He had a bitter hatred for his boss, a coarse, cunning, boastful, ugly old man of sixty because the latter always made fun of him.

Walker had a passion for roads and he would do anything to have them constructed. Although he loved the natives as if they were his children, he could not help playing tricks on them. When the natives of Matautu with the chief's son, Manua, as their leader struck in order to ask for more pay for working on a road, Walker hired the people from Manua, another village to build the road. According to the Polynesian custom, the people

of Matautu had to receive the people from Manua in their houses as guests. The longer their guests stayed, the more miserable they became since they earned nothing but had to feed their guests. Manua was thrashed by the villagers because of his wrong policy. The natives, outwitted, had to plead with Walker to send the people of Manua back. Walker took his revenge by promising to do so on condition that they pay the wages of the natives of Manua as well as finish the road.

Mackintosh disapproved of Walker's cruelty towards the natives although he did not like them as much as Walker did. Mackintosh's hatred was aroused and he borrowed Manua's head to kill Walker by leaving his gun where Manua could steal it easily.

That night Walker was shot but before he died he told Mackintosh that he had asked the authorities at Apia to appoint Mackintosh administrator after he retired. He also asked Mackintosh to say that his death was an accident in order to prevent the natives from being punished. Realizing when it was too late that Walker was really kind at heart, Mackintosh committed suicide.

The Fall of Edward Bernard

Two young Americans named Edward Bernard and Bateman Hunter were great friends who both fell in love with Isabel

Longstaffe, a pretty young girl from a rich family in Chicago. Edward, an intelligent, serious, good-looking young man, was the luckier because Isabel loved him. Unfortunately, however, his father went bankrupt when they were about to get married.

Edward was offered a post in Tahiti for two years as an agent of George Braunschmidt, a South Sea merchant, and Isabel promised to wait for him. But after two years Edward did not return home and Bateman who was still in love with Isabel was asked to go and find out why. To his surprise, he found Edward working as a salesman in a small shop instead of working with Braunschmidt. He noticed that Edward seemed more cheerful and more easy-going than before. Moreover, Edward had become, by adoption, the nephew of Arnold Jackson, Isabel's uncle. Arnold Jackson, had been imprisoned for fraud. Arnold Jackson himself was living with a native woman though he had a wife living in Geneva. Edward told Bateman that he did not want to go back to Chicago and that he had no ambition and was content with his life in Tahiti. He was going to marry Arnold Jackson's daughter as soon as Isabel released him.

When Bateman returned to tell Isabel about Edward's degradation, she was very disappointed but she showed excellent self-control. She immediately decided to marry Bateman whom she believed to be more successful in life than Edward.

Red

Red, so nicknamed because of his red hair, was a handsome American sailor of twenty who had deserted a warship in Apia and landed on one of the islands. There, he met and fell in love with a beautiful native girl of sixteen whom he called Sally. They had lived together in a hut near a creek for a year when one day a British whaler anchored off the coast. Red went aboard to trade for tobacco but was kidnaped and never came back. Sally who was very much in love with Red was determined to wait for him with the hope that he would return. Meanwhile she gave birth to a child.

Three years later through the abuses of her own people, she consented to live with Neilson, a queer, educated Swede who was a doctor of philosophy. Neilson had been sick and had come to spend the last period of his life on the island but he found that instead of dying he became stronger. He built a new house on the same spot as Red's hut which Sally had burnt down. Neilson was unhappy because Sally did not love him but still loved and always waited for Red. They had lived together for a long time and Sally had become a fat old native woman and Neilson's love for her had worn off when one day Red who had grown into a fat old ugly skipper came ashore. The two lovers

met but did not recognise one another. Feeling cheated at the sight of Sally's lover who was coarse and ugly, unlike what he had expected, Neilson decide to leave Sally and go home to Sweden.

The Pool

Lawson, a well-educated man who loved literature and music, was the manager of the Apian branch of an English bank. He met Ethel, a very pretty half-caste, the daughter of Brevald, a Norwegian planter and a native woman, at a pool two miles away from Apia, where both of them like to go swimming. They had been married and lived happily for a year when their son was born. Wanting to protect his son from being miserable like other half-castes, Lawson took his family to Scotland where he had been offered a job. Ethel was unhappy because she could never adapt herself to the new surroundings. She was found swimming in a pool which was like the one in Samoa where she used to go swimming. Suddenly one day she took her son back to Samoa without telling Lawson.

Being even more passionately in love with his wife, Lawson had to follow her back to Samoa. This time they stayed in Brevald's crowded bungalow. Another son was born to them but Sally would not move to a house of their own. Lawson could not stand the situation and took to drink.

He grew quarrelsome and inefficient in his job. Finally, he had to work with a half-caste. Suspecting that Ethel had another lover, he often hit her. Meanwhile, she still went swimming in the pool every evening but she never allowed him to go with her.

Finally, on New Year's Eve, Lawson found out that her lover was a fat old ugly German-American named Miller. He had a fight with Miller but was defeated. After attending the midnight Mass, Lawson went to the pool and drowned himself to escape from ugly reality.

Honolulu

Captain Butler, an American skipper whose certificate had been recalled because he had lost his ship and some of her passengers were drowned, had to work for a Chinese by sailing a schooner between Honolulu and other islands in the same group. He was a fat, little man of about thirty-five. He bought a native girl for two hundred and fifty dollars to be his mistress. They had lived happily together for a year when he learned that Bananas, the native mate, was madly in love with the girl.

One day when he found the mate trying to break open the door of his cabin in which his girl had shut herself, he gave him a punch on the jaw. Two or three days later, the captain fell ill but the American doctor who was sent

for found nothing wrong with him.

A native doctor came to see Captain Butler and the girl learned that the captain would die unless Bananas who was praying for the Captain's death died before the Captain. In order to save Captain Butler's life, the girl yielded to Bananas' desire. Then, while Bananas was looking into the water in a calabash, she hit it so that his reflection in the water broke to pieces. Bananas fell dead immediately and Captain Butler recovered and became well after a fortnight.

Strangely enough, later the girl ran away with the Chinese cook. Captain Butler then lived with another native girl but this time he hired as the ship's cook the ugliest Chinese that he could find.

Rain

Mr. and Mrs. Davidson were a serious, efficient missionary couple whose mission was on one of the islands in the North of Samoa. They met Dr. and Mrs. Macphail on the ship going to Pago-Pago from where they were going to take a schooner to Apia. Unfortunately, there was an epidemic of measles and they had to stay about a fortnight in Pago-Pago. Therefore the two couples had to rent rooms in the house of Horn, a half-caste trader. Miss Sadie Thompson, who was one of the second-class passengers, occupied a room downstairs. During the time they stayed

there, it rained heavily almost every day.

Dr. Davidson told the Macphails how in his mission they could put the sense of sin into the natives' mind. They had fined the natives for committing adultery, lying, stealing, exposing their bodies, dancing and for not attending church. Thus, the natives could be converted to Christianity. He also told the Macphails of the Danish trader whom they had ruined because the trader had defied him.

Hearing Miss Thompson giving a noisy party for many sailors, Mr. Davidson went downstairs to stop the party. But, he was thrown out of the room. When he realized later that Miss Thompson was a prostitute from Iuelai, a famous Honolulu prostitution district, he set to get rid of her. He asked the governor to send her on the next ship to San Francisco. Miss Thompson pleaded with the missionary not to send her there because she had been in the penitentiary and would be put in prison for three years if she went back. The missionary would not change his mind but he persuaded her to accept punishment in order to save her own soul.

The last few days before the ship arrived, Mr. Davidson spent most of his time comforting and praying with Miss Thompson who had become a new person full of repentance

and fear of the punishment to come.

On the morning of Miss Thompson's departure, Mr. Davidson was found dead on the beach with his throat cut.

Miss Thompson's attitude towards Mr. Davidson's death suggested to Dr. Macphail that she had lured him and he could not resist the temptation. Consequently, he committed suicide to escape from the shock of realizing that he was not a better person than the prostitute. His death set Miss Thompson free, and she returned to her former life.

Envoi

It is a description of the ship leaving Honolulu. The coloured paper strips held by the passengers and the people on the wharf broke as the ship moved farther out of the harbour.

The Casuarina Tree

This is a collection of short stories about the Englishmen in the Federated Malay States and in Borneo.

Before the Party

Milliscent Skinner, a twenty-seven-year-old daughter of a lawyer, Mr. Skinner, married Harold, the forty-four-year-old

Resident of one of the outstations in Borneo. Although Millicent was not in love with Harold, she was fond of him. They had been married nearly a year when Millicent found out with a great shock that her husband was a drunkard but he promised to stop drinking. However, he broke his promise when Millicent went to Kuala Selor for her confinement. He had an attack of delirium tremens. Millicent was helpless until, by chance, she told him that she would take Joan, their daughter, away from him if he continued drinking. He was frightened because he was very fond of Joan. With the help of Millicent, he tried to stop drinking.

He had not drunk for two years when Millicent took Joan who was ill to stay at the seaside for a week. Millicent, to her surprise, suddenly realized that she was in love with her husband. She came back feeling very happy and when she found Harold lying on the bed, completely drunk, she became so furious that she killed him with a parang. But she told others that Harold had committed suicide.

Millicent then took Joan back to England to live with her parents. She was forced to tell the truth when Kathleen, having heard the facts from a friend, reproached her for keeping it a secret. The whole story was told before they went to the party where they were going to meet the Bishop

of Hong-Kong who had known Harold. Mr. and Mrs. Skinner and Kathleen, forgetting that they had pressed Millicent to tell them the truth, thought that they should not have to share such a secret.

P. & O.

Mrs. Henlyn, a woman of forty had been married for twenty years when she found out that her husband, at the age of fifty-two, had fallen madly in love with Dorothy Lacon, a married woman of forty-eight. Feeling hurt and humiliated, Mrs. Henlyn left Yokohama and went back to England by ship with the intention of divorcing her husband.

On board the P. & O. she met Mr. Gallagher, a gay planter who had been in the Federated Malay States for twenty-five years. He also was going back to England for good.

A few days later Mr. Gallagher was taken ill with hiccups which the doctor could not cure. Mr. Pryce who had been in charge of the machines on Mr. Gallagher's estate and who was going back to England with him, told Mrs. Henlyn that Mr. Gallagher had hiccups because the fat old Malay woman with whom Mr. Gallagher had lived for about ten years had cast a spell over him. She had said that Mr. Gallagher would never reach home. Somehow, the story

became known to the passengers and it caused uneasiness among them.

Since nothing could be done, the patient was going to be sent to the hospital in Aden. But Mr. Gallagher died on Christmas eve, a few minutes before they saw land and he was buried at sea.

The passengers, after discussing whether or not they should have a party, decided to have it on Christmas Day. It was a gay party and Mr. Gallagher was completely forgotten.

Mrs. Hamlyn, learning from Mr. Gallagher's death that life is short, decided that she should not grudge her husband his short happiness and wrote to tell him that she had forgiven him.

The Outstation

Mr. Warburton, the Resident at one of the outstations in Borneo, was a snob who always boasted about the nobleness whom he counted among his friends. He was the only white man in his district but he always dressed for dinner and read The Times and the Observer at breakfast, although he received them six weeks after publication.

The trouble began when Mr. Cooper came to work as Warburton's assistant. Warburton hated Cooper who was obviously ill-bred and uneducated. Cooper hated Warburton

because of his snobbishness. However, Warburton could not ask the authorities to remove Conner because Cooper was an efficient assistant. They spoke to each other only when necessary, and yet they knew each other's affairs.

Warburton loved the natives and always treated them kindly whereas Conner despised them and treated them badly. No natives would have stayed with Cooper had it not been for Warburton's orders.

One day Cooper, having accused his boy, Abas, of stealing, kicked him and dismissed him without paying his wages which had been withheld for three months. The following night Cooper was killed, in his sleep, with a kris and Warburton felt very much relieved. He ordered Abas to be arrested but he promised to release him after a term of punishment and to hire him as his house boy.

The Force of Circumstance

Doris, a secretary to a member of parliament, married Guy, a gay Englishman who worked in Serbulu under the Sultan. They were very much in love with each other.

Unfortunately, Doris found out that Guy, out of loneliness, had lived with a Malay woman and had had three children by her. They had been sent away before he went to England on leave because he had intended to marry a white woman.

After trying for six months Doris, unable to continue living as Guy's wife even though she did not blame him, left him to return to England.

That night, Guy let the Malay girl and the children come back to live with him because he could not bear the loneliness.

The Yellow Streak

Izzart, a popular fellow in Kuala Lumpur, who had native blood in his veins but tried to conceal the truth, accompanied Campion, a mining engineer who was working for the Sultan, on his inland expedition because Izzart could speak Malay and Dyak fluently. Although they travelled together for a long time, they did not become intimate friends but remained mere acquaintances.

On the way back to catch the Sultan Ahmed they stayed overnight with Hutchinson whom Izzart liked immediately. They left Campion out of their conversation because he had not had the same school background or did not know the same people they did. Feeling bored, Campion went to bed early. Then Hutchinson confided to Izzart that he was living with a native girl and had had two children by her. Izzart felt uneasy that a man like Hutchinson should live with a native woman. He blamed the half-castes' parents including his own for

causing the misery of their offspring.

The next morning, they started their journey too late because Hutchinson who had not met a white man for a long time would not let them go earlier. Izzart and Campion were rather drunk when they finally got into the boat manned by Dyak prisoners. On the way, they were caught in the Bore, a terrifying tidal wave. The boat was overturned and everybody had to cling to the boat to try to save themselves.

Izzart heard Campion's call for help but he was so full of fear that he left Campion to his fate. With the help of his boy, Izzart swam to the shore safely. He thought that Campion was drowned, but Campion was saved by the Dyaks.

Thinking that Campion knew that Izzart had deserted him, Izzart was restless and nervous because he was afraid that Campion would give the secret away at Kuala Selor. When they reached Kuala Selor, he went to tell the Resident the adventure first but found that the Resident had already heard the story from Campion.

Furious because he had a strong suspicion that Campion had said that he was a coward, Izzart lost his head and confessed that he had behaved badly. To his surprise, he realized that Campion knew nothing of it.

Campion promised to keep the secret and since he was going away, he asked Izzart not to speak badly of him, for

he also wanted to be popular like Izart.

The Letter

Mrs. Leslie Crosbie, a shy, quiet, well-brought-up woman whose husband was a rubber planter on an estate far from Singapore, had been Geoffrey Hammond's mistress for many years when she discovered that Hammond was living with a fat Chinese woman. She wrote a letter to ask him to come to see her the night her husband went to Singapore on business. When Hammond came according to the letter, she reproached him so much that Hammond, losing his self-control, told her that he was sick of her and that the Chinese woman was the only woman he loved.

Beside herself with rage and jealousy, Mrs. Crosbie shot him again and again until there were no more cartridges left in the revolver. She was arrested but she told Mr. Joyce, her lawyer, and everyone that Hammond had tried to rape her and she had shot hi in self-defence. The fact that Hammond had had a bad reputation with women and that he was living with a Chinese woman, made everyone sympathize with her. It was certain that she would be released.

Unfortunately, the Chinese woman had the letter in her possession and the innocent Mr. Crosbie had to pay ten thousand dollars for it. The day Mrs. Crosbie was set free,

Mr. Crosbie gave the letter back to her and she realized that he knew the truth.

Ab King

The six short stories in this collection were written during Maughan's trip from Singapore to Borneo, Indo-China and Siam. The collection was named after the author's Chinese servant who accompanied him on the journey.

Footprints in the Jungle

Gaze, head of the police in Tanah Merah, told the story about the Cartwrights who were very popular planters at the club there.

Mrs. Cartwright had formerly been Mrs. Bronson. She had been a cheerful and very pretty young lady although she had not paid much attention to her appearance. Reggio Bronson was a handsome, good-natured and capable planter in Selantan. The Bronsons were a happy couple who were also well-liked in Alor Lipis. Then, Bronson took Theo Cartwright, an old friend of his who had lost his job, to live with him. Cartwright helped Bronson with the work on the plantation, kept Mrs. Bronson company, and always accompanied the Bronsons to the club.

About a year later, Bronson was killed while cycling back from Kabulong where he had gone to get the wages. It

was at first thought that Bronson had been shot by robbers because his money and his watch were gone. Gaze, who was then working in Alor Lipis, made an investigation. He saw Bronson's footprints in such a way that suggested that Bronson must have stopped to speak to a person he knew before he was shot. But the murderer could not be found.

Upon Bronson's death, it was revealed that Mrs. Bronson was with child and four months later a daughter was born to her. Cartwright got a job as manager of a plantation near Tanah Merah, and he and Mrs. Bronson married a year after Bronson's death.

Later, a Chinaman found Bronson's watch in the jungle and the police, after a long search also found the money. From various traces, Gaze could surmise that Cartwright was the murderer and that Cartwright had been Mrs. Bronson's lover. Since she was going to have a baby, he had to get rid of Bronson because Bronson would know that it was not his baby. But Gaze thought that Mrs. Bronson planned the murder. Anyway, Gaze did not have enough evidence to arrest Cartwright and therefore kept quiet. He even sympathized with the Cartwrights who, he thought, were good people who had been driven by circumstances to commit a crime.

The Door of Opportunity

Alban Forel was the District Officer at Daktar, the

most distant district in Sondurah, the Federated Malay States. He and Anne, his charming wife, loved literature, music, beauty and art, and despised other white men because of their ignorance. Alban knew that he was intelligent and expected to be appointed Governor eventually. Being conceited, he never realized or did not care that he was very unpopular and was nicknamed "Powder-Puff Percy." Anne, on the contrary, tried to please others for her husband's sake.

One day it was reported to Alban that Pryano, the manager of the rubber plantation up the river who lived with a native woman and had had two children by her, had been killed by the Chinese rioters who also set fire to the houses on the estate. The Forrels and the Pryanos had been good friends and Anne asked Alban to go and save Pryano's family. But Alban refused saying that he did not have enough men. He waited for three days for reinforcements from Fort Wallace and then went with them to attack the rioters. To his surprise, Alban found . . . that Van Hasseldt, the Dutch manager of the timber camp twenty miles from there, and his men had already quelled the Chinese rioters with no difficulty.

The Governor, having inquired into the matter, had to dismiss Alban for being a coward. All other white men laughed at Alban but he did not seem to notice. He continued to be very sure of himself, very superior, and very confident

as a front for his weakness. The Torels returned to England. Although Anne had been disillusioned since she realized that Alban was a coward, she stood by him until they arrived in London. Then, having told him how much she despised him, left him. Alban broke down and cried trying to plead with her but she would not listen to him.

The Vessel of Wrath

The Rev. Owen Jones, a serious and melancholy Australian missionary on Baru, the principal island of the Alas Islands, and the only qualified doctor there, asked Mr. Wynheer Evert Gruyter, the tolerant Dutch Contrôleur to deport Ginger Ted, a troublesome English drunkard, but the Contrôleur refused. He sentenced Ginger Ted to six months labour instead.

During the last period of his imprisonment, Ginger Ted worked on an is and named Naputiti. It happened that the Christian headman of the village was seriously ill and Miss Jones, the missionary's conscientious and cheerful sister, had to go to the island instead of her brother who was, at that time, sick with malaria.

After a successful operation, Miss Jones accidentally took the same launch as Ginger Ted back. Ginger Ted's period of punishment had ended. On the way, the engine broke down and they had to spend the night on a deserted island. Knowing

that Ginger Ted had a bad reputation with women, Miss Jones, very frightened, hid herself in a hollow place all night. When she woke up the next morning, she found to her shame, that Ginger Ted had covered her feet with two copra sacks when she was asleep.

Miss Jones fell for Ginger Ted because of his consideration. She believed that Ginger Ted must have good qualities in him and therefore she decided to save his soul. The chance came when there was an epidemic on many of the islands. Ginger Ted reluctantly accompanied Miss Jones to one of them to stop the epidemic which lasted four months at the end of which Ginger Ted was converted and decided to marry Miss Jones. To the Contrôleur's dismay and shock, Ginger Ted wanted to become a missionary.

The Book-bag

During his journey in the Federated Malay States, the author stayed for a few days with Mark Featherstone, a thirty-five, handsome Acting Resident at Langganch. Featherstone borrowed a book on Byron's life which was among other books in the author's book-bag. After reading it, Featherstone told a story about the love between brother and sister which was comparable to that of Byron and his half-sister.

When Gazo was Assistant District Officer in Sibuku, he knew a brother and a sister: Tim and Olive Hardy. Tim was a twenty-five-year-old planter who owned an estate near Sibuku. Olive who was a year older than Tim was an attractive, delightful and good-natured girl. On account of their parents' separation, the two had been separated when young and reunited when they were about seventeen and eighteen. Olive had been educated in Italy. After their parents' death, they rented their house which was too big for them to keep and went to the East to earn enough money to go back to live in it.

The brother and sister were obviously attached to each other and preferred their own company. They were not very popular because they were rather reserved and because they were better educated, better bred and richer than other white men who were jealous of them.

Featherstone was madly in love with Olive but she declined his proposal. However, they remained good friends.

Then, Tim had to go to England on business for three months. When he was due to return, he wrote to tell Olive that he was married and was bringing his bride home with him. Olive was unusually distressed and because Featherstone was kind to her, she accepted his proposal. But the day before Tim's arrival, she told Featherstone that she could not marry him.

Unexpectedly, the moment Tim and Sally, his bride, arrived home, Olive committed suicide. Tim grieved at her death so much that he forgot all about Sally. From the behaviour of Tim and Olive, Featherstone as well as Sally, surmised that the two had been lovers. Sally, in horror, returned to England immediately. But Featherstone sympathized with the brother and sister.

Tim sold his estate and bought another near Tenggara to which, by coincidence, Gaze also was sent.

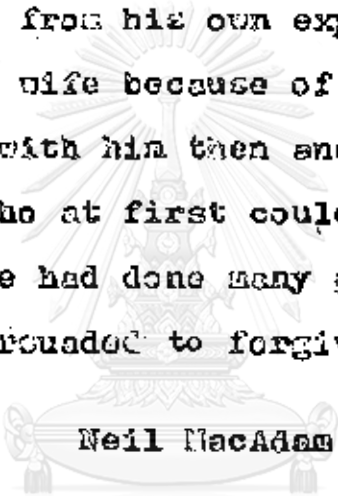
The Back of Beyond

Tom and Violet Saffary and Harold nicknamed "Knobby" and Enid Clarke were great friends and neighbours. Tom and Knobby who had come out to the East together were planters in Sibang Belud. After three years of friendship, Violet and Knobby became lovers, but both still continued to do their duties as good husband and good wife to their mates.

When Tom was offered a higher position at the estates in British North Borneo, Violet and Knobby planned to run away together. However, before the Clarkes left for England on leave, Enid announced that she was going to have a baby. This, consequently, ruined Violet and Knobby's plan because Violet could not hurt Enid at such a time. Knobby died unexpectedly on his way home and was buried at sea. Because of the shock of the news, Violet lost control of herself

and told Tom everything.

Tom, planning to divorce Violet, went to George Moon, the lonely Resident who was just about to retire and was going back to England the next day, to ask for advice. In spite of the Resident's reputation for being very strict and serious, he advised Tom to forgive Violet; otherwise Tom would regret it as George Moon himself did, for George Moon knew from his own experience that if he had not divorced his wife because of her unfaithfulness she would have been with him then and would have made him a good wife. Tom, who at first could not forgive his wife and Knobby because he had done many good turns for both of them, was finally persuaded to forgive Violet.



Neil MacAdam

This is a story about a young man who prided himself on his virginity so much that he thought it was more important than the life of a woman.

Neil MacAdam, a serious, shy, good-looking young Scotsman of twenty-two, travelled to take a job as assistant curator of the museum at Kuala Solor. On the way Captain Bredon, the Dutch captain of the ship trying to introduce him to the night life in Singapore, was surprised to learn that Neil was a virgin and planned to remain so until he married.

When he arrived at Kusla Solar, he boarded with Angus Munro, the serious, reserved Scot curator who had a Russian wife named Darya, a frank, passionate and sensual woman of thirty-five who loved literature especially Russian literature and felt contempt for other white men for their ignorance. Neil admired Munro very much for his knowledge and intelligence, but he could not get used to Darya's frankness and familiarity. He disapproved of her advances.

When the three of them went on an expedition in the jungle near Mount Hithan, Darya, who accompanied her husband because she had fallen for Neil, confessed to Neil that she was passionately in love with him. Neil tried to reason with her but she would not listen. Mad with desire when she discovered that he was still a virgin, Darya even followed Neil into the jungle, which she feared, trying to get him to make love to her. Neil fled in fright and fury and left her in the jungle.

When Munro returned from collecting insects, he organized parties to search for her. Neil also took part in the search but he did not tell Munro of Darya's whereabouts because he thought that it would be better for Munro to be rid of his unfaithful wife. Finally a storm came up and they had to abandon the search. Munro felt pity for Darya, for he knew that she would never survive the storm.

SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY

East of Suez

Daisy, the beautiful daughter of an Englishman and a Chinese woman, was educated in England. Unfortunately, when she returned to China at the age of seventeen, she found out that her father had died and left her nothing. She was ashamed to see that her mother was an ugly old Chinese woman and therefore she told everybody that her mother was her amah and treated her as such. Yet the Amah had influence over her.

The only person in Chung King who felt sorry for Daisy was George Conway, the Vice-consul, whom Daisy fell in love with and hoped to marry. Although George also loved her, his ambition prevented him from marrying her because he would have had to leave the Government service if he had married a half-caste.

Very disappointed, Daisy turned to the Amah for consolation because the missionaries with whom she stayed hated her and treated her badly. The Amah took her to Shanghai and sold her to Lee Tai Cheng, a rich and well-educated Chinese. Daisy hated Lee Tai Cheng and ran away with an American named Rathbone. But when Rathbone died, she had to return to Lee Tai Cheng again. Embittered by her fate, during World War I, she became a prostitute.

The play opens in Peking. Daisy is going to marry Harry Anderson, a member of the staff of the British American Tobacco Company in Peking. She finds out that George is a friend of Harry's. After a long discussion, George decides not to tell Harry about Daisy's past because George sees that Harry is madly in love with her. Daisy and Harry get married and live happily in an apartment in the vicinity of a beautiful Chinese temple named the Temple of Fidelity and Virtuous Inclination.

After a year of peace and happiness, Daisy becomes bored to distraction with the dull and lonely life because she is not admitted into the white man's society there. For the sake of their happiness, Harry applies for a transfer to Chung-King where he thinks Daisy will be accepted by the few white men and therefore both he and Daisy will be happier. Daisy refuses to go there because she is afraid that Harry will soon learn about her past. Moreover, she is once again passionately in love with George and does not want to leave him.

Seeing that Harry is very determined, she, with the help of the Ansh and Leo Tai Chong, plans to have him killed. Unfortunately, by mistake, George is badly wounded instead. George is taken into the Andersons' house and nursed by Daisy until he recovers. Learning that George is

also in love with her, Daisy takes him as her lover by a trick. She is full of exultation but George is tormented by his sense of guilt and tries to break off the sinful relationship. Mad with jealousy because she thinks that George wants to marry Miss Sylvia Knox, the charming sister of Harold Knox, a colleague of Harry's, Daisy sends George's love letters to Harry who is out of town on business. She learns later that George and Sylvia are not in love with each other. However, she is pleased with what she has done because she expects Harry to divorce her which means that she would then be free to marry George.

Shocked and ashamed by the thought that his sinful behaviour will be revealed, George commits suicide.

The Amah, taking advantage of the situation, tries in vain to persuade Daisy to run away with Lee Tai Cheng. Daisy calmly puts on a Manchurian dress when she hears that Harry is arriving home. Stunned by the unexpected sight of Daisy in a Chinese dress, looking like a real Chinese woman, Harry is defeated. To show his weakness by weeping and asking Daisy to say that she does not have a love affair with George. But Daisy takes no notice of him.

The ending of the play seems to suggest that Daisy is able to cope with the disastrous situation because of her Eastern qualities.

NOTES

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¹W. Somerset Maugham, The Summing Up (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1938), p.228

²Swinnerton, Frank A. English novelist and critic. Born August 12, 1864. Author of Nocturne (1917), Harvest Comedy (1937), and The Georgian Literary Scene (1935).

³Frank Swinnerton, "Somerset Maugham as a Writer," The World of Somerset Maugham: An Anthology, ed. Klaus V. Jonas (London: Peter Owen Limited, 1959), p.13.

⁴Ibid., p.19.

⁵Wescott, Glenway. American novelist and essayist. Born April 11, 1901. Author of several novels, among them The Grandmothers (1927), The Pilgrim Hawk (1940) Apartment in Athens (Book-of-the-Month Club selection in 1945); a collection of essays, Fear and Trembling (1932); a volume of poems, Natives of the Rock (1926); introduction to Short Novels of Colette (1951).

⁶Glenway Wescott, "Somerset Maugham and Posterity," The World of ..., p.170.

⁷Jonas, Klaus V. Associate Professor of Modern

Languages, University of Pittsburgh, and Curator of the Centre of Vaughan Studies. Born June 22, 1920, in Stettin, Germany. Author of A Bibliography of the Writings of W. Somerset Maugham (1950), Somerset Maugham and der Nazno Osten (1953), The Maugham Enigma (1954), Carl Van Vechten: A Bibliography (1955), Fifty Years of Thomas Mann Studies (1955).

⁸Klaus W. Jones, "The Gentleman from Cap Ferret," The World of ..., p.22.

⁹Ervine, St. John Greer. Irish playwright, critic and novelist. Born December 28, 1893. Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Member of the Irish Academy. Among his best known plays are Jane Clegg, John Ferguson, and The First Mrs. Fraser.

¹⁰St. John Ervine, "Maugham the Playwright," The World of ..., p.143.

¹¹Mascott, "Somerset Maugham and Posterity," The World of ..., p.163.

¹²Ibid., p.166.

¹³Ibid., p.179

¹⁴Swinnerton, "Somerset Maugham as a Critic," The World of ..., p.12.

¹⁵W. Somerset Maugham, Cakes and Ale: or The Skeleton in the Cupboard (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1934; orig. pub. 1930), p.124.

¹⁶Klaus W. Jonas, "The Gentleman from Cap Ferrat," The World of ..., pp.32-33.

¹⁷The Sunning Up, p.1.

¹⁸Ibid., p.24.

¹⁹Ibid., p.48.

²⁰W. Somerset Maugham, A Writer's Notebook (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1949), p.9.

²¹The Sunning Up, pp.64-65.

²²Ibid., pp.121-122.

²³Ibid., pp.109-110.

²⁴Ibid., p.117.

²⁵Ibid., p.171.

²⁶W. Somerset Maugham, The Razor's Edge (New York: Pocket Books Inc., 1963; orig. pub. McCall Corporation, 1944), p. 51.

27 "Mr. Somerset Maugham: The Most Assured English Writer of His Time," The Times (London), December 17, 1965, p.17.

28 The Sunning Up, p.191.

29 "Somerset Maugham," Of Human Bondage," Mr. Maugham Himself, selected by John Beecroft (New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1954), p.442.

30 The Sunning Up, p.197.

31 "Somerset Maugham, The Gentleman in the Parlour: A Record of a Journey from Rangoon to Hainphong (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1935; orig. pub. 1930), p.13.

32 The Sunning Up, pp.200-202.

33 "Somerset Maugham, The Moon and Sixpence (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1935; orig. pub. 1919), pp.159-160.

34 The Sunning Up, pp.59-60.

35 "Somerset Maugham, The Trembling of a Leaf (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1935; orig. pub. 1921), pp.xiii-xiv.

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36 Klaus W. Jones, "Maugham and the East," The World of ..., p.96.

37 The Sunning Up, pp.50-51.

38 The Moon and Sincerity, p.225.

39 Ibid., p.164.

40 Ibid., p.87.

41 Ibid., p.172.

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43 W. Somerset Maugham, The Painted Veil (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1953; orig. pub. 1925), p.203.

44 Ibid., p.233.

45 W. Somerset Maugham, The Narrow Corner (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1963; orig. pub. 1932), p.163.

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47 Ibid., p.281.

48 Ibid., p.166.

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50 Ibid., p.282.

51 Ibid., pp.283-284.

52 Ibid., p.294.

53 Ibid., pp.306-307.

54 Ibid., p.310.

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56 W. Somerset Maugham, The Trembling of a Leaf (London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1953; orig. pub. 1921), p.13.

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58 Ibid., p.92.

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60 Ibid., p.96.

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62 Ibid., p.131.

63 Ibid., p.192.

64 Ibid., p.233.

65 Ibid., p.266.

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(London: William Heinemann Ltd., 1955; orig. pub. 1926),
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- 95
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- 96
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- 110 On a Chinese Screen, pp.47-48.
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