

## THE HEART OF GODS STORY LEADER KIT

All windows opening onto the fire escape featured a laminated sandwich of glass and steel-wire mesh to prevent easy access by burglars. Tom Vanadium knew all the tricks of the best B-and-E artists, but he didn't need to break in order to enter here..The masterpiece that Junior purchased was small, a sixteen-inch-square canvas, but it cost twenty-seven hundred dollars. The entire picture-titled *The Cancer Lurks Unseen, Version 1*-was flat black, except for a small gnarled mass, bile-green and pus-yellow, in the upper-right quadrant. Worth every penny.."September 13, 1928. Lake Okeechobee, Florida. Two thousand people died in a flood." The slamming of Junior's heart sounded as loud to him as mortar rounds. He stepped back and sideways, out of the vending machine's line of fire..In San Francisco, Seraphim Aethionema White lies beyond all hope of resuscitation. So beautiful and only sixteen..After mentally reviewing what he must say, after working up a nervous edge, he dialed the SFPD emergency number..Kathleen Klerkle, Mrs. Wulfstan, sitting on the edge of Nolly's desk, looked diagonally across it at the visitor in the client's chair. Actually, Nolly had two chairs for clients. Kathleen could have sat in the second; however, this seemed to be a more appropriate pose for a hawkshaw's dame. Not that she was trying to look cheap; she was thinking Myrna Loy as Nora Charles in *The Thin Man*-worldly but elegant, tough but amused..Edom carried the honey-raisin pear pie, and Agnes toted Barty across the neatly cropped yard, to the front door. The bell push triggered chimes that played the first ten notes of "That Old Black Magic," which they heard distinctly through the glass in the door..Because the upper part of the hospital bed was somewhat raised, he didn't have to lift his head from the pillow to study the corner where the phantom waited. He peered beyond the IV rack, past the foot of the..She looked surprised, all right, but her expression wasn't the one that Junior had painted on the canvas of his imagination. Her surprise had no delight in it, and she didn't at once break into a radiant smile..Celestina had a delayed reaction to Barty's name. An odd look came over her. "Barty? Short for ... Bartholomew?" Grace and Celestina fell at once into the rhythms of kitchen work, not only brewing the coffee, but also helping Agnes with the pies..Around the dinner table, the adults applauded, but the tougher audience squinted at the ceiling, toward which she believed the coin had arced, then at the table, where it ought to have fallen among the water glasses or in her creamed corn. At last she looked at Tom and said, "Not magic." Always, he was good with Barty, and on this occasion, he teased more than the usual number of smiles and giggles from the boy as he tried to get him to read the Snellen chart on the wall. Then he lowered the lights in the examination room to study his eyes with an ophthalmometer and an ophthalmoscope..Running footsteps, heading toward the ambulance. Apparently Kenny. The second paramedic..Using a clean rag that they had brought to polish the engraved face of the memorial, Barty said, "Is he good with numbers like me?" Cold, wind-driven rain slashed through the missing windows, and voices rose in the street as people ran toward the Pontiac-thunder in the distance-and on the air was the ozone scent of the storm and the more subtle and more terrible odor of blood, but none of these hard details could make the moment seem real to Agnes, who, in her deepest nightmares, had never felt more like a dreamer than she felt now..The receptionist, Rebecca, had stayed late, just to keep company with Barty in the waiting room. As she settled into a chair beside the boy, he asked her if she knew what gravity was on Mars, and when she confessed ignorance, he said, "Only thirty-seven percent what it is here. You can really jump on Mars." "I'm gifted to a small extent, and it's an unusual gift," he admitted. "Nothing world-shaking. More than anything, really, it's a special perception I've been given. Angel's gift seems to be different from mine but related. In fifty years, she's the first I've ever met who's somewhat like me. I'm still shaking inside from the shock of finding her. But please, let's save this for Bright Beach and a better evening. You go down there tomorrow with Paul, okay? I'll stay here to look after Wally. When he's able to travel, I'll bring him with me. I know you'll want him to hear what I have to say, too. Is it a deal?" "Really? You really think that?" he asked in his flat voice, which he sometimes wished were more musical, but which he knew lent a sober conviction to anything he said. "You think something so delicious could come from a fat, smelly, dirty, snorting old pig?" After the latest concerned nurse departed, Sheena leaned close. She cruelly pinched Junior's cheek between thumb and forefinger, as if she might tear off a goblet of flesh and pop it into her mouth..Standing near the foot of the bed in a shapeless blue suit, Vanadium might have been the work of an eccentric artist who had carved a man out of Spam and dressed the meaty sculpture in thrift-shop threads..From serviceway to alley to serviceway to street, into the city and the fog and the night, Junior ran from the Cain past into the Pinchbeck future..Unable to continue Tehanu's story (because it hadn't happened yet) and foolishly assuming that the story of Ged and Tenar had reached its happily-ever-after, I gave the book a subtitle: "The Last Book of Earthsea." "Crafty men need to stick together," he said. "Men who have no art at all, nothing but wealth-they pit us one against the other, for their gain not ours. We sell em our power. Why do we? If we went our own way together, we'd do better, maybe." "I can't sleep half the time," Deed said, twisting the baseball cap in his hands. "I've lost weight, and I'm so nervous, jumpy." But first, in early July, he stopped taking French lessons. It was an impossible language. Difficult to pronounce. Ridiculous sentence constructions. Anyway, none of the good-looking women he met spoke French or cared whether he did..In the top drawer, in addition to the expected items, Tom Vanadium found a gallery brochure for an art exhibition. In the hooded flashlight beam, the name Celestina White seemed to flare off the glossy paper as though printed in reflective ink..Rubbermaid container from his own pantry. Junior would never again use it to store leftover soup..Had Junior been chest-deep in wet concrete, he would have been more mobile than he was now. He had no feeling in his legs..Junior glanced over his shoulder even as Celestina turned and fled. He caught only a glimpse of her disappearing into the inner hallway.."This will stay with you," Mary said. "It's shared sight from all the other yous in all the other places, but you won't have to make any effort to hold on to it. No

headaches. No problems ever. Merry Christmas, Daddy." She searched the child's unfocused eyes for some sign of the hateful father's wickedness. As they moved around the base of the oak from one vantage point to another, people stopped by to reassure Agnes, although never with a word, as though to speak would be to jinx the climb. Maria placed a hand on her arm, squeezed gently. Celestina briefly massaged the nape of her neck. Edom gave her a quick hug. Grace slipped an arm around her waist for a moment. Wally with a smile and a thumbs-up sign. Tom Vanadium, thumb and forefinger in a confident OK. Lookin' good. Hang in there. Signs and gestures, maybe because they didn't want her to hear the quivers and catches in their voices. He shook so badly that he couldn't remove the cap from the bottle. He was proud to be more sensitive than most people, to be so full of feeling, but sometimes sensitivity was a curse. "Three hundred and ninety-six of the dead were children under the age of ten," Jacob continued. "A passenger train was tumbled off the tracks, killing twenty. Another train with tank cars got smashed around, and oil spilled across the flood waters, ignited, and all these people clinging to floating debris were surrounded by flames, no way to escape. Their choice was being burned alive or drowning." He was confused initially, frowning at the heart monitor and at the IV rack that loomed over him. When his eyes met Celestina's, his gaze clarified, and the smile that he found for her brought as much light into her heart as the diamond ring he had slipped onto her finger so few hours before. Just as the smile curved to completion, however, an awful thing happened. The humiliation began with a loud gurgle in his gut. Yet in her heart, she wouldn't relinquish hope for a miracle. This was an amazing boy, a prodigy, a boy who could walk where the rain wasn't, already himself a miracle, and it seemed that anything might happen, that Dr. Chan might suddenly rush into the waiting room, surgical mask dangling from his neck, face aglow, with news of a spontaneous rejection of the cancer. Celestina threw down the weapon even before she turned, and as two cops entered the room, she cried, "He's getting away!" Thrilled to have inspired this awe in her, he closed the book. "Remember what we talked about a long time ago? You asked me how come, if I could walk where the rain wasn't. . . ." He went in a pretense of blindness, gripping Angel's arm, but he missed nothing, and etched every detail in his memory, against the need of them in the coming dark. If he woke, however, and saw her sitting vigil, Barty would understand how terrible his condition might be. All the way back to the ridge, sitting up front beside a county deputy in a police cruiser, with an ambulance and other patrol cars racing close behind them, Junior had shaken uncontrollably. When he tried to respond to the officer's questions, his uncharacteristically thin voice cracked more often than not, and he was able to croak only, "Jesus, dear Jesus," over and over. On Thursday, December 28, employing forged driver's licenses and social-security cards as identification, Junior opened small savings accounts and also rented safe-deposit boxes for Pinchbeck and Gammoner at different banks with which he'd never previously done business, using the mailing addresses that he'd established earlier. Dinner was cooking in the upper of the two ovens. He switched the bottom oven, setting it at warm, and dropped open the door. From the phone, Barty proceeded directly to the refrigerator. He opened the door, got a can of orange soda, and returned without hesitation to his chair at the table. Sklent proved to be angry, suspicious, volatile, but also a man of tremendous intellectual power. A profound and dazzling conversationalist, he rattled off breathtaking insights into the human condition, astonishing yet unarguable opinions about art, and revolutionary philosophical concepts. Later, except in the matter of ghosts, Junior would not be able to remember a single word of what Sklent had said, only that it had all been brilliant and really cool. "I'm Sister Josephina." She slipped Celestina's purse off her shoulder--"You can trust this with me"--As she tucked the bedclothes around him again, she said, "Barty, I don't think you should let anyone else see how you can walk in the rain without getting wet. Not Edom and Jacob. Not anyone at all. And anything else special that you discover you can do ... we should keep it a secret between you and me." He did not answer Hound's question. "Why do they let a man like that keep his badge?" Junior asked. "He's outrageous, wholly unprofessional." "Well, he was an insurance agent, and numbers are important in that line of work. And he was a good investor, too. Not the whiz you are with numbers, but I'm sure you got some of your talent from him. Now the message ... Something about a hospital. Someone dying. A cerebral hemorrhage. At a gun shop, Junior purchased two hundred rounds of ammunition. Later, that many cartridges seemed excessive to him. Later still, he purchased another two hundred. Agnes had read the last half of Red Planet to Barty just the previous night, but he brought the book with him, to read it again. Aware that his tension was building intolerably, Junior decided that he needed Scamp more than he dreaded her. He spent the remainder of Wednesday, until dawn Thursday, with the indefatigable redhead, whose bedroom contained a vast collection of scented massage oils in sufficient volume to fragrantly lubricate half the rolling stock of every railroad company doing business west of the Mississippi. In his mind, he carried a blueprint of the house more precisely drawn than anything that might have been prepared by an architect. He knew the place to the inch, and he adjusted his pace and all his mental calculations every month to compensate for his steady growth. So many paces from here to there. Every turn and every peculiarity of the floor plan committed indelibly to memory. A journey like this was a complicated mathematical problem, but being a math prodigy, he moved through his home almost as easily as when he had enjoyed sight. At last he said, "And there he is, hands in front of his face, quarters bouncing off him, these kids and this old lady scrambling around him to snare some change." The funeral was at two o'clock, after which family and friends of the deceased would gather here in the parsonage for a social, to break bread together and to share their memories of the loved one lost. As she turned away from him and continued along the hall toward the kitchen, Agnes said, "They'll be as good as new when she's mended them." "Don't worry," Celestina told him, "after what we've seen this past week, we're still with you." Along the hall, every step measured, he stayed near the wall farthest from the staircase. When she complimented him on being such a good little soldier, abiding his cold with no complaint, he shrugged. Without looking up from the coloring book, he said, "It's just here." For all his brilliance, however, he was still a boy who loved to run and jump and tumble. Who swung from the backyard

oak tree in a rope-and-tire swing. Who was thrilled when given a tricycle. Who giggled in delight while watching his uncle Jacob roll a shiny quarter end over-end across his knuckles and perform other simple coin tricks..Easter still lay a few weeks away, but already Celestina had begun decorating more than a hundred baskets, so that nothing would need to be done at the last minute except add the candy. Her living room was a warren of baskets, ribbons, bows, beads, bangles, shredded cellophane in green and purple and yellow and pink, and decorative little plush-toy bunnies and baby chicks..In the distance, the clang of a trolley-car bell. Hard and clear in spite of the muffling fog..on both sides of the property, the neighbors can't see, but some know, have always known, and have less interest.From San Francisco south to Orange County Airport on a crowded commuter flight, then farther south along the coast by rental car, Paul Damascus brought Grace, Celestina, and Angel to the Lampion house. "Before we go to my place, there's someone I very much want you to meet. She's not expecting us, but I'm sure it'll be okay." Three years ago, in St. Mary's Hospital, with Phimie's warning fresh in her mind, Celestina swore that she would be ready when the beast came, but here he came, and she was as not ready as possible. Time passes, the perception of a threat fades, life becomes busier, you work your butt off as a waitress, you graduate college, your little girl grows to be so vital, so vivid, so alive that you know she just has to live forever, and after all, you are the daughter of a minister, a believer in the power of compassion, in the Prince of Peace, confident that the meek shall inherit the earth, so in three long years, you don't buy a gun, nor do you take any training in self-defense, and somehow you forget that the meek who will one day inherit the earth are those who forego aggression but are not those so pathetically meek that they won't even defend themselves, because a failure to resist evil is a sin, and the willful refusal to defend your life is the mortal sin of passive suicide, and the failure to protect a little yellow M&M girl will surely buy you a ticket to Hell on the same express train on which the slave traders rode to their own eternal enslavement, on which the masters of Dachau and old Joe Stalin traveled from power to punishment, so here, now, as the beast throws himself against the door, as he shoves aside the barricade, with what precious little time you have left, fight. Junior shoved through the blocked door, into the bedroom, and the bitch hit him with a chair. A small, slat-back side chair with a tie-on seat cushion. She swung it like a baseball bat, and there must have been some Jackie Robinson blood in the White family line, because she had the power to knock a fastball from Brooklyn to the Bronx..In the noble ruin of his face, Thomas Vanadium's smoke-gray eyes were striking, filled with a beautiful ... sorrow. Not self-pity. He clearly didn't regard himself as a victim. This, Kathleen felt, was the sorrow of a man who had seen too much of the suffering of others, who knew the evil ways of the world. These were eyes that read you at a glance, that shone with compassion if you deserved it, and that glared with a terrifying judgment if compassion wasn't warranted..To the alleyway again. Not through the clodhopper-cluttered gallery this time. Around the block at a brisk walk.."The Finder" takes place about three hundred years before the time of the novels, in a dark and troubled time; its story casts light on how some of the customs and institutions of the Archipelago came to be. "The Bones of the Earth" is about the wizards who taught the wizard who first taught Ged, and shows that it takes more than one mage to stop an earthquake. "Darkrose and Diamond" might take place at any time during the last couple of hundred years in Earthsea; after all, a love story can happen at any time, anywhere. "On the High Marsh" is a story from the brief but eventful six years that Ged was Archmage of Earthsea. And the last story, "Dragonfly," which takes place a few years after the end of Tehanu, is the bridge between that book and the next one, The Other Wind (to be published soon). A dragon bridge.."No," said Vanadium, "you only think you know who I am and what I am, but you don't know anything. That's all right. You'll learn." Rising, Celestina said to Tom, "Last Tuesday night, we had to switch on the lawn sprinklers. This will be much better." hearts represented either a rival in love or a lover who would betray an enemy who would deeply wound the heart. The knave of diamonds was someone who would cause financial grief. The knave of clubs was someone who would wound with words: one who libeled or slandered, or who assaulted you with mean-spirited and unjust criticism..The night seemed to be longer than a Martian month. Agnes dozed, fitfully, waking more than once, sweaty and shaking, from a dream in which her son was taken from her in pieces: first his eyes, then his hands, then his ears, his legs.....The hateful window. The hateful, frozen window. Celestina wrenched on the crank with all of her strength, and felt something give a little, wrenched, but then the crank popped out of the socket and rapped against the sill..A mutual interest in ballroom dancing had resulted in their introduction when each needed a new partner for a fox-trot and swing competition. Nolly had started taking lessons five years before he had met Kathleen..Grinning but with an odd edge of concern in his expression that Celestina could see even through her tears, Wally said, "Does that mean you ... you will?!" Junior wanted to shoot all of them, but he said, "Take it. Keep it. Get it the hell out of here." What didn't come as a surprise to Paul was Agnes's determination that the Whites, during their period of lying low, should stay with her and Barty..The driver shook his head. "I knew everything anyone would need to know about you when I heard you ask your kid what would happen if the stupid boogeyman showed up in her dream." Angel liked to perch sideways with a drawing tablet in the window seat in Barty's room, look out at the oak tree from the upper floor, and draw pictures inspired by things she heard in whatever book he was currently listening to. Everyone said she was a pretty good artist for a three-year-old, and Barty wished he could see how good she was. He wished he could see Angel, too, just once.."Yeah, they think we're with Candid Camera. So Jimmy points to this United Parcel truck parked across the street and says the cameras are in there." Both the red and the white wines were too cheap for Junior's taste' so he drank Dos Equis beer and got two kinds of high by inhaling enough secondhand pot smoke to cure the state of Virginia's entire annual production of hams. Among the two or three hundred partys, some were tripping on some exhibited the particular excitability and talkativeness typical of cokeheads, but Junior succumbed to none of these temptations. Self-improvement and self control mattered to him; he didn't approve of this degree of self indulgence..This galerieur was tall, with silver hair, chiseled features, and the

all-knowing, imperious manner of a gynecologist to royalty. He wore a well-tailored gray suit, and his gold Rolex was the very watch that Wroth Griskin might have killed for in his salad days..The guy appeared vulnerable, his arms occupied with the kid and the bag, and Junior considered bursting out of the Mercedes, striding straight to the Celestina-humping son of a bitch, and shooting him point-blank in the face. Brain-shot, he would drop quicker than if the headless horseman had gotten him with an ax, and the kid would go down with him, and Junior would shoot the bastard boy next, shoot him in the head three times, four times just to be sure..Swinging toward the open door, he saw that the dead detective was true to his word: He wasn't here..Minutes later, once more in a corridor conference with Dr. Daines, she was forced to temper her new optimism.. "He's an attorney, and this grieving husband comes to him with a big liability case. There's money to be made." On this morning in March, minutes after the pie caravan had departed, Edom got his Ford Country Squire out of the garage and drove to the nursery, which opened early. Spring was drawing near, and much work needed to be done to make the most of the rosarium that Joey Lampion had encouraged him to restore. He happily contemplated hours of browsing through plant stock, tools, and gardening supplies..He raised the lower sash of the tall double-hung window and slipped quietly into the dark kitchen. Because the window served also as an emergency exit, it wasn't set above a counter, and ingress was easy..A plate-size piece of the door had been blasted away. Because of the light shining through from the room beyond, Junior could see that no part of the lock remained intact. In fact, he peered through the hole in the door to the back of a piece of furniture that was jammed against it, whereupon the nature of the problem became clear to him..The bitch was getting tired, but Junior still didn't like his odds in a hand-to-hand confrontation. Her hair was disarranged. Her eyes flashed with such wildness that he was half convinced he saw elliptical pupils like those of a jungle cat. Her lips were skinned back from her teeth in a snarl..Gradually, Agnes realized that this was not a prayer for the soul of a deceased infant but for the survival of one still alive..Urgency gripped the paramedics. The rescuers' equipment and the pieces of the car door were dragged out of the way to make a path for a gurney, its wheels clattering across pavement littered with debris..Airborne, Phimie complained of ringing in her ears, which might have been related to the flight. She also suffered an episode of double vision and, in the airport after landing, a nosebleed, which appeared to be related to her previous symptoms..He knew for a fact that Seraphim had died in childbirth. He had seen the gathering of Negroes at her funeral in the cemetery, the day of Naomi's burial. He had heard Max Bellini's message on the maniac cop's Ansaphone..Caution discarded, Junior went inside, for the same reason that a dedicated opera aesthete might once a decade attend a country-music concert: to confirm the superiority of his taste and to be amused by what passed for music among the great unwashed. Some might call it slumming..This Dry Sack-assisted effort at recollection, however, brought back to him one thing in addition to all the sweet lubricious images of Seraphim naked. The voice of her father. On the tape recorder. The reverend droning on and on as Junior pinned the devout daughter to the mattress..As he rose from his chair, Barty began to reacquaint himself with the feeling of all the ways things are, began to bend his mind around the loops and rolls and tucks of reality that he had perceived on the roller coaster that day, and by the time he had followed Angel and Tom to the bottom of the stairs and into the oak-shaded yard behind the house, the day faded into view for him..After staring at the coins for a long moment, Kathleen said, "I don't think any mystery writer has ever done a series of novels about a priest detective who's also a magician." The second ring was followed by a click, and then a familiar droning voice said, "Hello. I'm Thomas Vanadium-". Perplexed by their peculiar behavior, even slightly unnerved, Tom answered Maria's question. "I'm afraid there's nothing else I can do, nothing more of a fantastic nature." Standing over the body, he squeezed off the last three shots. Finished, he detested guns more than ever..The paper towels were spotted with butter. He crumpled them and threw them in the trash..He liked her face, too. She wore no makeup, and pulled her brown hair back in a bun. Some might say she was mousy, but the only things mousy that Nolly saw about her were a piquant tilt to her nose and a certain cuteness..Instead, he sat in the breakfast nook with his phone books and resumed the grueling search for Bartholomew..When Bartholomew first said "Kay-jub," and held out one hand toward his uncle, Jacob surprised Agnes by crying with happiness..The Finder..Of course, you've never seen anything like it, you worthless adolescent twit. You're not old enough to have seen squat, and even if you were older than your own grandfather, you wouldn't have seen anything like this, Dr Kildare, because this here is a true case of voodoo Baptist boils, and they don't come along often!. Chastened by these recent events, he vowed to stop meditating, to void all passive responses to the challenges of life. He must explore the unknown rather than flinch from it in fear. Besides, through his explorations, he would prove that the unknown was all just tapioca or applesauce, or whatever..She looked around the room. "He's invisible like the Cheshire cat?" "His whole world is as real as ours, but we can't see it, and people in his world can't see us. There're millions and millions of worlds all here in the same place and invisible to one another, where we keep getting chance after chance to live a good life and do the right thing." Descending the stairs, Edom said, "September 18, 1906, a typhoon slammed into Hong Kong. More than ten thousand died. The wind was blowing with such incredible velocity; hundreds of people were killed by sharp pieces of debris-splintered wood, spear-point fence staves, nails, glass-driven into them with the power of bullets. One man was struck by a windblown fragment of a Han Dynasty funerary jar, which cleaved his face, cracked through his skull, and embedded itself in his brain." Junior's throat wasn't half as sore as it had been the previous afternoon, and to these men, his soft, coarse voice must have sounded not abraded, but raw with emotion. "I don't care what's customary. I don't want anything. I don't blame anyone. These things happen. If you have a liability release with you, I'll sign it right now." Vanadium was no ordinary cop, as he himself had said. In his obsession, convinced that Junior had murdered Naomi and impatient with the need to find evidence to prove it, what was to stop the detective if he decided to deal out justice himself? What was to prevent him from walking up to the Suburban right now and shooting his

suspect pointblank?. They would have given him an antinausea medication. It most likely wasn't going to work quickly enough to save him. Everyone confronted Agnes with expressions of puzzlement and expectation, and she looked from one to another. Paul. Maria. Francesca. Bonita. Grace. Edom. Jacob. Finally Celestina..by the ferocity of the beating and by years of fear and humiliation. So he opens his mouth, just to end it, just to be. Thursday evening, his third in the hotel, he returned to the lounge for cocktails and another steak. The same tuxedoed pianist provided the entertainment.. "He's blind, sure, but he's also a boy," Angel said, "and trees are something that boys gotta do." She looked down at her clenched hands. Made for work, these hands, and always ready to take on any task. Strong, nimble, reliable hands, but useless to her now, unable to perform the one miracle she needed. "Barty's birthday is in eight days. I was hoping. . .". The barren white walls, the stark furniture starkly arranged, the rigorous exclusion of bric-a-brac and mementos: this resulted in the closest thing to a true monastic cell to be found outside of a monastery. The only quality of the apartment that identified it as a secular residence was its comfortable size, and if Industrial Woman had been replaced with a crucifix, even size might have been insufficient to rule out residence by some fortunate friar.. "it totally destroyed four towns, as if they were hit by atom bombs, tore up parts of six more towns, destroyed fifteen thousand homes. That's just the homes. This thing was black, huge and black and hideous, with continuous lightning snapping through it, and a roar, they said, like a hundred thunderstorms booming all at once." "Will I love you tomorrow, you mean, and the day after tomorrow, and on forever? Of course, forever, Wally, always." .64 just a little bit ago," the girl said. "I was sitting on the porch, having a Popsicle, and I just figured it out." Assisted by Edom and Jacob, Agnes-in a wheelchair-was rolled across the grass, between the headstones, to her husband's final resting place. Although no longer in danger of renewed hemorrhaging, she was under doctor's orders to avoid strain.. Nurses were supposed to be angels of mercy. She had shown him no mercy. And she was certainly no angel.. Traumatized by the violence in her mother's bedroom, not fully aware of what happened to Wally, Angel had been tearful and anxious. A thoughtful physician gave her a glass of orange juice spiked with a small dose of a sedative, and a nurse provided pillows. Bedded down on two pillow-padded chairs, wearing a rose-colored robe over yellow pajamas, she gave herself as fully to sleep as she always did, sedative or not, which was every bit as fully as she gave herself to life when she was awake.. In the instant that Junior had shoved Naomi into the rotted railing, he had foreseen this visit from Rudy, Sheena, and Kaitlin. He'd known he could pretend to be offended at the state's offer to put a price on his loss, could feign revulsion, could resist convincingly--until gradually, after grueling days or weeks, he reluctantly allowed the indefatigable Prosser-fifty-six, a widower, an accountant-had a thirty-year-old daughter, Zelda, who was an attorney in San Francisco. Junior had driven to Terra Linda previously, to research the accountant; he already knew Prosser had no connection to Seraphim's fateful child.. Still relishing her little pretense of rejection, Victoria did not touch the rose. "What kind of woman do you think I am?" He snatched up the wine list before she could look at it. "If you're paying, then I'm ordering whatever costs the most, regardless of what it tastes like." "A friend's daughter. They say she died in a traffic accident down in San Francisco. She was even younger than Naomi."

[Education in Colorado A Brief History of the Early Educational Interests of Colorado Together with the History of the State Teachers Association and Short Sketches of Private and Denominational Institutions](#)

[Histoire de la Tribu Des Osages Peuplade Sauvage de LAmerique Septentrionale Dans LEtat Du Missouri LUn Des Etats-Unis DAmerique Ecrite DApres Les Six Osages Actuellement a Paris](#)

[Coney Island and the Jews](#)

[Handbook of the Alabama Anthropological Society 1910](#)

[Bearings and Bearing Metals](#)

[Bacons Guide to American Politics Or a Complete View of the Fundamental Principles of the National and State Governments with the Respective Powers of Each](#)

[Potts Disease Its Pathology and Mechanical Treatment with Remarks on Rotary Lateral Curvature](#)

[The Tale of Daddy Longlegs](#)

[Songs of the Prairie](#)

[History of the New-York African Free-Schools From Their Establishment in 1787 to the Present Time Embracing a Period of More Than Forty Years Also a Brief Account of the Successful Labors of the New-York Manumission Society With Appendix](#)

[The Tailors Guide Containing Systems of Draughting Frock and Sack Coats Pants Vests and Shirts With Valuable Improvements Warranted Superior to Anything Ever Offered to the Trade](#)

[The Present and Future of Harvard College An Address Delivered Before the Phi Beta Kappa Society at Cambridge Mass June 23 1891](#)

[The Triumph of Bohemia A Forest Play](#)

[Letters from Under a Bridge](#)

[Boutwells Ready Reference Book and Pocket Memoranda for Natick](#)

[The Game Laws](#)

[Octavius Brooks Frothingham and the New Faith](#)

[Outline of the Course on Issues of the War for the Student Army Training Corps Vol 1](#)  
[Buddhist Texts Quoted as Scripture by the Gospel of John A Discovery in the Lower Criticism \(John VII 38 XII 34\)](#)  
[The Compass and Square with Symbolism For Women Only](#)  
[Spelling Ability Its Measurement and Distribution](#)  
[State Control of Education](#)  
[Unveiling of the Equestrian Statue of General Philip H Sheridan Capitol Park Albany New York October 7 1916](#)  
[Confessions of an Old Priest](#)  
[A Practical Grammar of the English Language In Which the Principles Established by Lindley Murray Are Inculcated and His Theory of the Moods Clearly Illustrated by Diagrams Representing the Number of the Tenses in Each Mood Their Signs and the Manne](#)  
[Discovery of the Origin of Evil Among the Creations of God](#)  
[Jean Jacques Rousseau and Education from Nature](#)  
[Liability of the Government of Great Britain For the Depredations of Rebel Privateers on the Commerce of the United States Considered](#)  
[Jewish Christians and Judaism A Study in the History of the First Two Centuries](#)  
[Hints to Teachers and Students on the Choice of Geographical Books for Reference and Reading with Classified Lists Prepared at the Request of the Geographical Association](#)  
[Selected Articles on the Election of United States Senators](#)  
[Bulletin of the Homoeopathic Medical College Midwinter 1897 University of Michigan](#)  
[Cairds Slanders on Canada Answered Refuted](#)  
[Newfoundland and the Jingo An Appeal to Englands Honor](#)  
[Mistakes of Prohibitionists](#)  
[Observations Upon the Doctrine Lately Advanced That His Majestys Council Have No Constitutional Power to Control Individual Appropriations or to Amend or Alter Money Bills With a Few Remarks Upon the Conduct of the Body on the Questions of Granting](#)  
[The Roman Catholic Bible and the Roman Catholic Church](#)  
[Memoirs of a Nullifier](#)  
[Youthful Pilgrims Or Memorials of Young Persons of the Society of Friends](#)  
[English Law and the Renaissance The Rede Lecture for 1901 with Some Notes](#)  
[Church Law Suggestions of the Law of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America Its Sources and Scope](#)  
[The Chemical Aspects of Silk Manufacture](#)  
[The Depression in Trade Its Causes Remedies The Pears Prize Essays](#)  
[Illustrated Catalogue of Carbon Prints on the Rise and Progress of Greek and Roman Art](#)  
[Report of the Congressional Committee on the Operations of the Army of the Potomac Vol 1 Causes of Its Inaction and Ill Success Its Several Campaigns Why McClellan Was Removed The Battle of Fredericksburg Removal of Burnside](#)  
[Glimpses of an Irish Felons Prison Life](#)  
[On the Relations of Micro-Organisms to Disease The Cartwright Lectures Delivered Before the Alumni Association of the College of Physicians and Surgeons New York February 19 21 24 and 27 1883](#)  
[Practical Observations Upon the Education of the People Addressed to the Working Classes and Their Employers](#)  
[The Strangers Gift A Christmas and New Years Present](#)  
[The Harvard Medical School and Its Clinical Opportunities](#)  
[The Two-Edged Sword Lenten Lectures](#)  
[Cathay Translations by Ezra Pound for the Most Part from the Chinese of Rihaku from the Notes of the Late Ernest Fenollosa and the Decipherings of the Professors Mori and Ariga](#)  
[Rullmans Theatre Ticket Office 111 Broadway New York City Trinity Building Rear Arcade](#)  
[Literary Extracts To Aid Pupils Who Are Preparing for Examination in English Literature for Admission to High Schools](#)  
[The Farriers Dog and His Fellow](#)  
[Les Jeux DOrgue Leur Caracteristique Et Leurs Combinaisons Les Plus Judicieuses](#)  
[The Constellations and How to Find Them 13 Maps Showing the Position of the Constellations in the Sky During Each Month of Any Year](#)  
[The Holy Spirit A Laymans Conception](#)  
[Lifes Race Well Run With a Sketch of](#)  
[The Manufacture of Photogenic or Hydro-Carbon Oils from Coal and Other Bituminous Capable of Supplying Burning Fluids](#)  
[History of the County of Schuylkill In Honor of the Countys Centenary July Second to Eighth Nineteen Hundred and Eleven](#)

[Resumption of Specie Payment A Series of Letters to the New-York Daily Times September-October 1873](#)

[The Monroe Doctrine A Complete History](#)

[Historia Tragico-Maritima](#)

[Louden Barn Plans](#)

[Frontiers Delivered in the Sheldonian Theatre Oxford November 2 1907](#)

[Bleaching Being a Resume of the Important Researches on the Industry Published During the Years 1908-1920](#)

[The Man Who Would Be King](#)

[The Pronunciation of Greek and Latin Proper Names in English](#)

[Herodias Opera in Five Acts](#)

[Phelps-Stokes Fellowship Studies No 7 Vol 25 An Economic Study of Negro Farmers as Owners Tenants and Croppers](#)

[Hundreds of Things a Boy Can Make A Hobby Book for Boys of All Ages](#)

[On the Remains of Later Prehistoric Man Obtained from Caves in the Catherina Archipelago Alaska Territory and Especially from the Caves of the Aleutian Islands](#)

[The Scot in New France An Ethnological Study Inaugural Address Lectures Season 1880-81 Read Before the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec 29th November 1880](#)

[The Russian Revolution](#)

[Land Money and Highways Evils and Remedies](#)

[The Rural School in the United States](#)

[The Calkins Memorial Military Roster and Genealogy](#)

[Sister Benigna Consolata Ferrero a Professed Choir Nun of the Order of the Visitation B V M Como Italy Or The Tenderness of the Love of Jesus for a Little Soul](#)

[Digest of Election Laws of Tennessee 1908](#)

[Dicourse Delivered Before the Faculty Students and Alumni of Darmouth College of the Day Preceding Commencement July 27 1853](#)

[The Hypocrite A Poem](#)

[A Mosaic from Italy And Other Poems](#)

[The Pertinent Wagnerite](#)

[Letter to a Whig Member of the Southern Independence Association](#)

[A Holiday Study of Cities and Ports](#)

[Letter from Alexander Hamilton Concerning the Public Conduct and Character of John Adams Esq President of the United States Written in the Year 1800](#)

[School Laws Of the State of Wyoming](#)

[Disorders of Menstruation](#)

[General Corporation Law of the State of Rhode Island Chapter 1925 Public Laws January Session 1920](#)

[Recommendations for Reorganization of the Public School System of the City of Chicago Report of an Investigation by the Committee on Schools Fire Police and Civil Service of the City Council of the City of Chicago Testimony of Educational Experts Who](#)

[The Fight in the Beechwoods A Study in Canadian History](#)

[Conversations Militaires A Conversation Book for Soldiers with Notes](#)

[If Not an United Church What? Vol 1 The Reinicker Lectures at the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary in Virginia](#)

[United States Vs Charles G Davis 1851 Report of the Proceedings at the Examination of Charles G Davis Esq on a Charge of Aiding and Abetting in the Rescue of a Fugitive Slave](#)

[Workmens Compensation Acts in the United States Vol 1 The Legal Phase](#)

[An Encore](#)

[Pseudo-Hypertrophic Muscular Paralysis A Clinical Lecture](#)

[The Federation of Canada 1867 1917 Four Lectures Delivered in the University of Toronto in March 1917 to Commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Federation](#)

[What You Should Know about Tuberculosis](#)

---