

The Birthday Murder
By Lange Lewis

CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT
Part One
"You couldn't have me jailed," said Moira Hastings. Her voice was unsteady.

Tuck nodded his head twice. "Oh, yes. On suspicion of murder. It's often done. It's an excellent way of holding a witness."
She tried to read his face. She settled back into the corner of the seat. "All right," she said. "I believe you."
"Then you'll talk."
She straightened. "This is dreadfully banal! They only say

"Then you'll talk in cheap gangster movies."
Tuck waited.
Moira Hastings moved her shoulders uneasily against the worn plush of the seat. "What do you want me to say? That I sent the note? All right, I sent it!"
In sepulchral tones Tuck quoted: "It is not over yet. You are going to suffer now!"

"Well, all right. I sent it! What more do you want me to say?"
"For the moment, nothing. I want you to listen. I want you to think. I mean think, and not let your emotions deceive you into the belief that you are doing so. I'm going to show you what that foolish note of yours told me about you. I hope I'm going to convince

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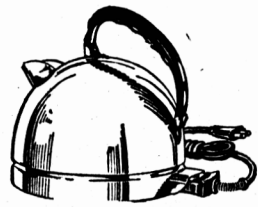
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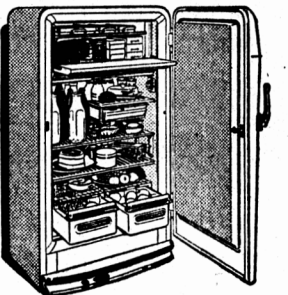
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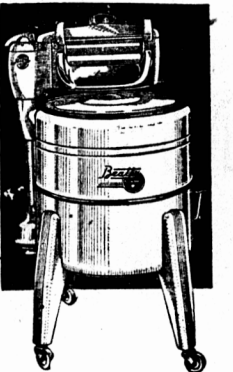
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