

maelstrom of New York. Our ranch became a favorite with Calgary folk, motoring to Banff. ~~times~~ They were always dropping in on us. I had much ado indeed to ~~keep~~ my cook in good humor of a Sunday. ~~Twenty or thirty~~ people to a table. My husband put his foot down. We

And in fact it was pleasant to have them come. They brought a whiff from the city with them. Of course, I knew that ~~most~~ <sup>many</sup> of them came ~~for~~ <sup>for a</sup> chance of being invited to a good ranch dinner, the loan of a horse, the ~~fixing~~ brook trout in the two rivers and the streams, and after September the game in the woods. There were partridge, prairie chicken, mallard ducks (on the ponds) and all kinds of small game, and later in the season came down from the hills the bigger game. I've had young does spring right in ~~the~~ front of my horse when I have been riding over our ranch, and I've kept it secret too because I didn't want the men to go after the lovely things.

The approach of the winter, and the departure of the children for school almost brought me to a state ~~that~~ <sup>each year to a state</sup> of almost despairing melancholy, ~~that not even time could salve.~~ <sup>My duties were so many on</sup> the ranch; there was always so much doing and so many distractions ~~even~~ that even if I had wanted to I would not have found the time to write: ~~but~~ <sup>one winter</sup> I went "on strike". I said to my husband.

"I'm going to the city. I won't put in another winter on the ranch."

I should mention that he loved the life in all of its phases. Men do. You see they are out in the open all the time, but in winter a woman is more or less kept to the house on a ranch. Of course, in Alberta there are often great Chinooks -- warm winds from the Japanese current that sweep over an ice bound land and transform it in no time into wonderful springlike weather. One wakes of a morning in midwinter, to see the land stripped of snow, springs running everywhere, and the air as soft and balmy as June. That's Alberta! But even with these antidotes for the long spells of cold and the blizzards that shut us in for days, I had the restless feeling that year that I wanted to escape. It was something the same feeling I had experienced in New York, when I had a longing to get away from my environment and into a new one

*Also to be come quite a bit of an expert when I saw to see about Calgary to my then and to see*

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