

condescends to accept his invitation to "feed" her, on condition that her firends ~~Miss. Gorman~~ ^{Mrs. Gorman} should accompany them also. Nora is much taken with Buck, who is arrayed in his best, and entertains the girls at lunch with tales of the ranch life. When Nora learns that he is foreman on the ranch where her mother works there is great excitement and Buck presses them to visit the ranch. Nora and Minette says they will when they have their vacation from the Bay in a few weeks.

At an adjoining table in the restaurant Whispering Jay, his pop eyes bulging had been watching Minette. He and Buck are not on good terms, but Jay finally makes the excuse to come over to their table with a supposed message from Dayton. Buck ignores his evident wish to be introduced, but Jay finally whispers in his ear that if Buck wants to be alone with his girl he had better let Jay take the other one off his hands. Buck reluctantly introduces them. Jay conveys to Minette that the two would probably like to be alone, and offers to escort her home.

The girls live on the north side, on the edge of the town, where rents are low. Jay accompanies ~~the~~ Minette home ~~after work~~. The girls have gone out for dinner after work, so that it is now quite dark, when Jay and Minette arrive at her door. He tries to make love to her. She repulses ~~him~~ ^{him}. He laughs and calls her a maverick. She asks what that is, and he explains that women are all like cattle. Some are scrub stock and easily branded; others are highbred and have to go through the squeeze gate before they are marked. Others are outlaws--mavericks, that roam the range unbranded. Now Jay