

in his arms, and carries them off to bed. He sits awhile by the children, and clumsily undresses them, worried by the carelessness of their "mother" who leaves him as soon as she shows him the room.

It so happens that Lily Belle has begun to blackmail her mistress. Birdie, who is almost broke gives her what she has, but the colored girl says it is not enough, and Birdie promises her more later. Meanwhile, left alone, Dickie has consumed all of the drink he can find on the side board, and the Man from Canada coming out, discovers him swallowing it down by the wholesale, and in a slight tipsy condition. His uncle; as Birdie is about to come in shoves Dick out into the hall, to hide his condition from his wife. Dick, glad to escape seized his hat and departs.

Alone with Birdie, the Man from Canada talks about the children's future. She is wild to be rid of him, but he fatuously continues to talk about his "his beautiful kids". He does not think they at all resemble their photograph. Takes it out and looks at photo. He begins to puzzle over the fact that Birdie ~~has written~~ Dickie had announced each time the birth of a boy. Patrice-- --- Birdie laughs hysterically, and says that was a fib. They just want a dear uncle to think they had boys. "Uncle" assures her solemnly that he prefers girls and there was no need for the deception. However, it is a small matter. He begins to brag about the cleverness of the children. He has never seen a child of Patrice's age ----she is supposed to be not quite one, running about and talking as she does. To change the subject, as she is