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"AMOS AND ANDY"
by
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No. 923.

As the trial of Andy Brown versus Madam Queen comes into its final stages in the Supreme Court of New York, both attorneys are prepared for their final arguments. Attorney for the plaintiff will speak first and then attorney Collins will have a chance to speak in behalf of the defendant, and then Madam Queen's lawyer has the final argument. But during the last two minutes, something very peculiar has happened in the court room. Just two minutes ago, as Madam Queen, dressed in an array of color, walked across the court room to take her seat a woman sitting in the fifth row from the front screamed and fainted, and as the scene opens now we find a policeman and the bailiff putting a wet towel on the woman's face. Madam Queen is sitting facing the judge but everyone else in the court room are turning their eyes in the direction of the unconscious woman. Amos and Andy, together with their attorney, are somewhat puzzled and now we find the judge trying to restore order in the court room. Here they are:--

Judge--(ffg) Quiet in this court room please. Just because a woman faints, we are not going to have people talking and running up and down the aisles of this court.

Bailiff--(cjc) (in distance) Will you folks take your seats where you were, and be quiet? If you'll get away from this woman, let her get a little air, she'll be alright.

Judge--(ffg) Will you please remove the woman from the court room. Take her in the room in the rear. Call a doctor if necessary.

Bailiff--(cjc) Somebody catch hold of her feet there. Alright, look out folks, let us through here.

Amos---She's goin' pass right by heah. I wanna git a look at her if I kin.

Andy---Whut is goin' on 'round heah?

Collins--Quiet Andy. (to Amos) Amos, stand up so you can see her.

Andy---I'm goin faint in a minute---I kin feel it comin' on me. My pulse ain't pulsin' right, an' I got de headache.

Collins--How about it Amos?

Amos---I ain't sure, but I think so. I think I'se right. Look at Madam Queen.

Collins--Oh yeh. If it wasn't for that smelling salts under her nose, she'd faint too.

Andy--Is dat whut she's holdin' undeh her nose in dat green jar?

Amos---Madam Queen's so nervous she don't know whut to do. Look at her.

Collins--Listen Amos, get in that room where that woman is right away-- even if you have to tell them you're her brother, and if she leaves the building, find out where she goes. I can't leave here now.

Amos---Alright Mr. Collins-----so long Andy.

Andy---Don't leave me Amos---where you goin'?

Amos---I'll be back.

Collins--Don't worry about Amos. What he's doing now is very important. The judge is getting on the bench again.

Andy---An' look at him---he's mad. An' look at Madam Queen. Her sister's got her arms around her. If dis ain't a mess, I ain't neveh seed one-----an' Amos is gone somewhere--or sumpin'.

Judge--(ffg) Quiet please. Mr. Smith, start your argument. We've had enough delay.

Collins--Well, we're going to start final arguments.

Andy---I hope dey is final---dat's all we been doin' since we been heah.

Smith--(ffg) If the court pleases, and gentlemen of the jury, you have witnessed a very peculiar trial coming under the heading of breach of promise. I say peculiar on account of the many unnecessary delays we have had, and peculiar because of some of the witnesses, principally one, the defendant in this case., has contradicted himself so much, while sitting on that witness stand, that I am forced to

sympathize with you in this case. I want to be as brief as possible in reviewing to you now statements, and evidence, that the plaintiff in this case has brought forth. We shall start at the time when the plaintiff Madam Queen was struggling to make a livelihood many years ago in her beauty shop, by hard work, sincere effort. She was successful in bringing her business up to a point of high standing which she enjoyed in her community. Prior to the time that she met Andy Brown, the defendant in this case, she had been asked to marry a successful business man. Thinking it best to continue in business for a little while before accepting this proposal, she did so, and then one day someone came to the door of the beauty shop--a man, a man who had in his mind the thought of deceiving a young girl, which he eventually did. She was sitting in her shop when she heard the bell. She went to the door and the first word that was spoken by this man was simply this: "Can a man get a manicure?" Madam Queen replied to this man that she did not specialize in manicuring men, but as long as she was not busy she would be glad to give him a manicure. Gentlemen of the jury---there is the man that walked in, and on that fatal day he started his dirty work that led him here to be the defendant in the most justifiable breach of promise suit ever recorded in the state of New York. (drops voice) Gentlemen of the jury, that man sitting there, a wolf in sheep's clothing, started his dirty work that day. He came back for another manicure---he came back again and again, insisting that he have the pleasure of taking her out to dinner. He then started his dirty work by promising her everything under the sun. She was--- --- (soft) I am sorry to say--an inexperienced girl, and believed this creature. Madam Queen informed the defendant in this case the second time she saw him, that she was considering a traveling salesman, who made an honest upright living selling merchandise on the road, but the defendant's persistence, his begging and pleading, forced her to give up the man who would have made her a fine and noble companion. She told him to go, never to return, because she had fallen in love, and intended to marry Andrew Brown, the deceiving creature that you see sitting there with his handkerchief over his face.

Judge--(ffg) Will the people in the rear of the court room stay in their seats please. This is not a side show.

Bailiff--(cjc) (in distance) Sit down in the court room please.

Judge--Go ahead Mr. Smith.

Smith--(ffg) She gave up this man and with the love in her heart of a pure woman, she made preparations to marry Andrew Brown. He became a little undecided as to the exact date to set for the wedding, The first date was set for Oct. the 31st, which he suggested be postponed until December the first. On December the first this girl had told all of her friends of her marriage on that day, but at the last minute this deceiving man, this wolf, this braccadoccia, this misleading man sitting there, afraid to lift his head up and face you, was successful in getting her to postpone the wedding until January the first.

(lowers voice) Gentlemen of the jury, it almost seems unnecessary for me to stand here and review this evidence for you, but the law requires and permits final arguments, and for that reason, it becomes necessary for me to remind you of a few facts in this case. (loud) Letters as evidence, and when I say letters, I don't mean 5---I don't mean 10---I don't mean 30 or 40. But 67 love letters, and if the judge will permit, you can take them in the jury room and read them one at a time. Here they are---67 love letters, telling her how he loved her, how he must have her, and how she must marry him, or he will even end his life. (soft) It was only necessary for me to read you a few of these letters, and every one of them, are like the ones I read you, and addressed and sent to this girl by this man seated there, who has now dropped his head in his hands in shame. Gentlemen, briefly I review to you the fact that after she had made final preparations for the marriage, which included renting an apartment, buying an electric refrigerator, and mind you, she was accompanied by Andrew Brown on these missions-----after all of these preparations were made, they attended a New Year's eve party at the home of George Stevens, known as the Kingfish, and at this party on New Year's eve, the day before the marriage, this man informed her that he had changed his mind---think of that gentlemen, he had changed his mind. As stated when I first talked to you, fortunately, the laws of this country protect young women from creatured of that kind. She is asking this court and jury to award her only a small part of what she justly deserves. She has asked for \$25,000, which would never pay her for the suffering, humiliation and grief she has experienced, and WILL experience. This humiliation will hang over her head forever, and gentlemen, I want you to THINK, when you go in that room, that a woman comes on this earth virtually alone in life. I want you gentlemen to be fair and if you are fair with yourselves,

and those of you who have little girls in your home who will some day come into womanhood, think of them. Gentlemen of the jury, I beg of you as attorney for this woman, and as a lesson to millions of people who may read of this in the newspapers, I beg of you to set an example that will go down in the history of the supreme court of New York, a lesson that will set an example and protect womanhood of our glorious country. Gentlemen of the jury, you have been very patient in listening to me, and I thank you very much indeed-----