

JACK Don't go, Babbs; you wanted to see us, didn't you?

LORD FANCOURT Oh yes! I wanted to borrow some fizz, but -

JACK Sorry I can't. I looked you up last night, Babbs, but you were out.

LORD FANCOURT Freddy Peel, Not the brightest lighthouse on the shore, gave a card party last night, and I won a hundred pounds from him. You should have seen his face! It makes me laugh even now.

JACK Why, Freddy Peel hasn't sixpence!

LORD FANCOURT No, really?

CHARLEY Did he pay you?

LORD FANCOURT No, but he's going to--when his grandmother dies.

JACK Why, the old lady's been dead years!

LORD FANCOURT Well of all the - that's beastly! well toodle pip I'll be off (*Attempts to bolt*)

JACK I say, Babbs, we want you to stay and lunch with us to-day.

LORD FANCOURT I say, you chaps, don't play the giddy goat! I've got to meet my tutor.

JACK Babbs, you mustn't work like this. You're looking quite pulled down.

LORD FANCOURT Am I really?

CHARLEY I was only telling Jack so just now.

JACK You don't want to worry over all this study. You'll be a great man, of one sort or the other, without all that. After Eton and Oxford you can be anything you want. You don't need to have any skills.

LORD FANCOURT But I must do something.

JACK Of course, Babbs, you must stay to lunch. Charley's aunt is going to pay him a visit.

JACK Now, we need a jolly smart chap like you, with a fund of humour and a lot of brilliant conversation.

CHARLEY Yes, Babbs, that's it!

JACK To interest and amuse a charming lady.

LORD FANCOURT Yes? Who is she?

JACK Why, Charley's Aunt.

LORD FANCOURT What's she like?

CHARLEY Well, you see, Babbs, we don't quite know. I'm to see her to-day for the first time.

LORD FANCOURT I say, Charley, she may turn out to be an awful old "croc."

JACK She's a widow, and a millionaire, that's enough, isn't it?

LORD FANCOURT Rather! Put me down for a chance, Charley. I'll take a chance!

... I say, what's her name?

CHARLEY Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez.

LORD FANCOURT Oh, dem it, what a name! (*Seizes bag again and bolts to door*)

JACK Look here, Babbs, it's no use; you must stay to lunch. You'll find Charley's Aunt a charming old lady.

LORD FANCOURT Charming old lady! I say, look here, haven't you got anything younger on the menu?

CHARLEY Oh yes, two other ladies.

LORD FANCOURT Nice? Young?

CHARLEY Yes.

LORD FANCOURT Ah! That's more in my line. How many did you say?

JACK Two.

LORD FANCOURT Oh, I see. One for each of you, and the old "croc" for me. No thanks, I'm off!