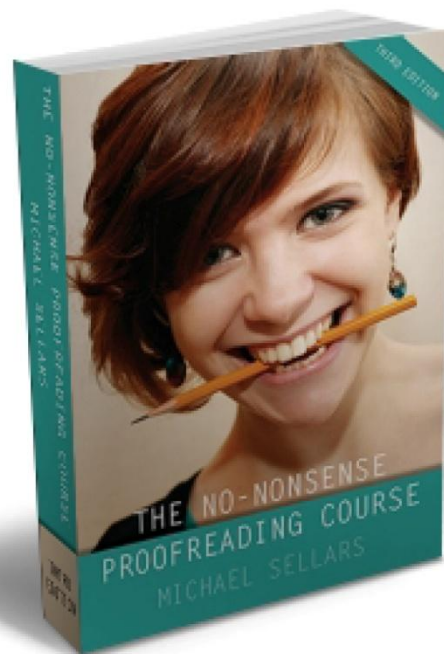


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strangely out of place in real life. His voice was rather deep and unctuous. He placed a wooden hand in mine and said:

“This is a pleasure, Mr. Hastings.” Then, turning to his wife: “Emily dearest, I think that cushion is a little damp.”

She beamed fondly on him, as he substituted another with every demonstration of the tenderest care. Strange infatuation of an otherwise sensible woman!

With the presence of Mr. Inglethorp, a sense of constraint and veiled hostility seemed to settle down upon the company. Miss Howard, in particular, took no pains to conceal her feelings. Mrs. Inglethorp, however, seemed to notice nothing unusual. Her volubility, which I remembered of old, had lost nothing in the intervening years, and she poured out a steady flood of conversation, mainly on the subject of the forthcoming bazaar which she was organizing and which was to take place shortly. Occasionally she referred to her husband over a question of days or dates. His watchful and attentive manner never varied. From the very first I took a firm and rooted dislike to him, and I flatter myself that my first judgments are usually fairly shrewd.

Presently Mrs. Inglethorpe turned to give some instructions about letters to Evelyn Howard, and her husband addressed me in his pain staking voice:

“Is soldiering your regular profession, Mr. Hastings.”

“No, before the war I was in Lloyd's.”

The Errors

Line 17

Spelling error. 'Inglethorpe' should be 'Inglethorp'.

Line 18

Spelling error. 'pain staking' should be 'painstaking'.

Line 19

Grammatical error. There should be a question mark after 'Hastings'.

Line 19

Formatting error. There is a 'plain' quote at the end of the line. 'Smart' quotes are used throughout.