

One hot evening in Padua they carried him up onto the roof and he could look out over the top of the town. In his relation with Luz she had felt before he went back to the front they went into the Duomo and prayed. Living in the muddy, rainy town in the winter, the major of the battalion made love to Luz, and she had never known Italians before, and finally wrote to the States that theirs had only been a boy and girl affair. Luz never got an answer to the letter to Chicago about it. A short time after he contracted gonorrhea from a sales girl in a loop department store while riding in a taxicab through Lincoln Park. When they operated on him she prepared him for the operating table, and they had a joke about friend or enemy. After he got on crutches he used to take the tepee not blab during the the bed. There were only a few patients, and they all knew about it. They all liked Luz. It was lonely and rainy there, and there was a battalion of arditi quartered in the town. He went under the anaesthetic holding tight on to himself so he would not blab about anything during the silly, talky time. On the train from Padua to Milan they quarreled about her not being willing to come home at once. There were chimney swifts in the sky. Luz sat on the bed. As he walked back along the halls he thought of Luz in his bed. They wanted to get married, but there was not enough time for the banns, and neither of them had birth certificates. When they had to say good-bye, in the station at Milan, they kissed good-bye, but were not finished with the quarrel. Luz went back to Pordenone to open a hospital. They were glad to let her.