

In a Compartment Car

There is a story told of a lady and gentleman traveling together on an English railway. They were strangers to each other. Suddenly the gentleman said:

“Madam, I will trouble you to look out of the window for a few minutes, I am going to make some changes in my wearing apparel.”

“Certainly, sir,” she replies with great politeness, rising and turning her back upon him. In a short time he said:

“Now, madam, my change is completed, and you may resume your seat.”

When the lady turned she beheld her male companion transformed into a dashing lady with a heavy veil over her face.

“Now, sir, or madam, whichever you like,” said the lady, “I must trouble you to look out of the window, for I also have some changes to make in my apparel.”

“Certainly madam,” and the gentleman in ladies’ attire immediately complied.

“Now, sir, you may resume your seat.”

To his great surprise, on resuming his seat, the gentleman in female attire found his lady companion transformed into a man. He laughed and said—

“It appears that we are both anxious to avoid recognition. What have *you done*? I have robbed a bank.”

“And I,” said the whilom lady, as he dexterously fettered his companion’s wrists with a pair of handcuffs: “I am Detective J— of Scotland Yard, and in female apparel have shadowed you for two days — now,” drawing a revolver, “keep still!”

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