

In a little district west of **Washington Square** the streets have **run crazy** and broken themselves into small **strips** called “places.” These “places” make strange angles and curves. **One street crosses itself a time or two.** An artist once discovered a valuable possibility in this street. Suppose a collector with a **bill** for paints, paper and canvas should, in **traversing** this **route**, suddenly meet himself coming back, without a cent having been paid on account!

So, to **quaint** old **Greenwich Village** the art people soon came **prowling**, hunting for north windows and eighteenth-century **gables** and Dutch **attics** and low rents. Then they imported some **pewter** mugs and a **chafing dish** or two from Sixth avenue, and became a “**colony**.”

At the top of a **squatty**, **three-story** brick Sue and Johnsy had their **studio**. “**Johnsy**” was familiar for **Joanna**. One was from Maine; the other from California. They had met at the **table d’hote** of an Eighth street “**Delmonico’s**,” and found their tastes in art, chicory salad and **bishop** sleeves so **congenial** that the joint studio resulted.

That was in May. In November a cold, **unseen** stranger, whom the doctors called **Pneumonia**, **stalked** about the colony, touching one here and there with his icy fingers. Over on the east side this **ravager** strode boldly, **smiting** his victims **by scores**, but his feet **trod** slowly through the **maze** of the narrow and **moss-grown** “places.”

Mr. Pneumonia was not what you would call a **chivalric** old gentleman. **A mite of** a little woman with blood thinned by California zephyrs was hardly fair game for the **red-fisted**, **short-breathed** old **duffer**. But Johnsy he smote; and she lay, scarcely moving, on her painted iron **bedstead**, looking through the small Dutch **window-panes** at the blank side of the next brick house.

Washington Square ワシントン・スクエア公園 (Washington Square Park)

◆ニューヨーク市マンハッタンにある公園

the street have run crazy 道が常軌を逸している。

strips 細長い土地

One street crosses itself a time or two. ある道はその道自身と一度か二度、交差している。

bill 請求書

traversing 縦走する、横断する

route 経路、ルート

quaint (古くて)風変わりでおもしろい

Greenwich Village グリニッチ・ヴィレッジ ◆ニューヨーク市マンハッタンの南部にある地区の名称。芸術家が多く住んでいたことで知られる。上述のワシントン・スクエア公園もこの地区に含まれる。

prowling うろついて、徘徊して

gables 切妻屋根

attics 屋根裏部屋

pewter 白目、ピューター ◆スズを主成分とする合金

chafing dish こんろがついた卓上鍋

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chafing_dish

colony 居留民、居留区

squatty すんぐりした

three-story 3階建ての

studio アトリエ

“Johnsy” was familiar for Joanna.

“Johnsy” というのは Joanna の愛称だ

table d’hote 定食、コース料理

bishop 司教、司祭

congenial 同趣味の、気性の合った

unseen 目に見えない

Pneumonia 肺炎 ◆擬人化しているので、大文字で始められている。

stalked (病気が)蔓延した

ravager 破壊 (ravage) する者

smiting (病気などが)……を襲って

◆ smite の現在分詞形。

by scores 大勢

trod 歩いた ◆ tread の過去形。

maze 迷路

moss-grown 苔の生えた

chivalric 騎士道の

A mite of ... ちょっぴりの……

zephyrs そよ風

red-fisted 血のついた拳をかためた

short-breathed 息をぜいぜいいわせた

duffer ばかり者

smote (病気などが)……を襲った ◆

smite の過去形。

bedstead ベッドの台

window-panes = windowpanes 窓ガラス