

GINGER ELLA

by Ethel Hueston

Illustrations by Irwin Myers

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STORY FROM THE STARS

In the usually quiet home of Rev. Mr. Tolliver of Red Thrush Iowa, his motherless daughters, Helen, Miriam and Ellen—"Ginger ELLA"—are busy "grooming" their sister Marjory for participation in the "beauty pageant" that evening. With Eddy Jackson, prosperous young farmer, her escort, Marjory leaves for the anticipated triumph. Over-work has affected Mr. Tolliver's eyes to the point of threatened blindness. Ginger has tried in many ways to add to the family's slender income, but she is not discouraged. Marjory wins the beauty prize, \$50.00. She gives the money to her father as part of the expense necessary for the treatment of his eyes by Chicago specialists. Mr. Tolliver leaves for Chicago with Miriam. Ginger meets Alexander Murdock.

CHAPTER III—Continued

Ginger sat motionless. Her slim fingers froze about the handle of the little gold cup. Presently she set it down with a determination that spoke volumes to the accustomed ears of Marjory and Eddy Jackson.

"Let's go for a drive now," she said coldly. "Eddy, you've got to take Marjory in front with you. I want Mr. Murdock to tell me all about the groceries. I think they are so fascinating."

"But I was prepared for you," objected Eddy. "I planned to give you a driving lesson."

It had long been Ginger's great desire to learn to drive, but now, with a sigh, she relinquished that beautiful dream to save her lovely Marjory from the machinations of this base pretender. Around the world—as a stoker, perhaps. Or working his way from port to port by the sale of vegetables.

Marjory slid into the front seat with Eddy Jackson. Ginger triumphantly drew Alexander Murdock in by her side, and immediately set herself to snubbing him. When occasionally, in sheer youth and good spirits, she forgot her annoyance and yielded to the pleasure of the hour, she consoled herself with the thought that at least she had saved Marjory for the future, and they parted at the parsonage two hours later merrily enough.

Three days passed before they had news from Chicago. It was not very encouraging. There was no improvement in Mr. Tolliver's condition. His eyes were still clouded in the misty fog. The doctors were pessimistic. By all means he should remain at hand for daily observation and treatment, for an operation if it came to that. But in the meantime absolute rest was imperative. He must have entire freedom from nervous strain, entire lack of worry and responsibility. Fresh air, good food, mild exercise, these were the tonics that by feeding the body would strengthen his sight. Particularly they warned that a shock of any nature whatsoever might precipitate total and permanent blindness.

In writing this sad news to her sisters, Miriam begged them to face it bravely, and to greet their father with their usual light good cheer.

"Be very cheerful," she begged, "oh, very. He doesn't say anything, but he looks so sad."

The girls at home went into immediate consultation. Ginger was first to give expression to her thoughts. Ginger was always first.

"There's just one thing about it," she said stoutly. "He's in for a good long siege of it, and we must have more money. You've got to let me go to work."

"What can you do, dear?" queried Helen mildly. It was Helen's mildness that so saddened Ginger. How could one expect to pull gloriously out of a crisis without fire and flame and flash? Helen was the sort to ask what one could do, when obviously one must do something!

"I don't care what," cried Ginger passionately. "Anything. I'll scrub or take in washing, or go on the stage or anything."

Helen considered gravely. Helen was the sort to consider gravely in such a moment.

"The twins must go to normal just as we have planned," she decided at last. "We have the future to consider, as well as the present. I will simply postpone my marriage for a year, and apply for a school. Miss Jenkins will come and stay here with you, Ginger."

Ginger flung herself upon her sister's neck. "Don't do that," she begged. "Oh, don't. It isn't fair. Helen, for you to do all the giving up."

Marjory, for her part, was in favor of abandoning the normal course, which required two years to finish, in favor of a stenographic one, which could be crowded into six months if necessary. But of that they knew their father would disapprove. Stenography—private offices—male employers—lovely girlhood—impossible! Mr. Tolliver had clung to his gentle old-fashioned ideas in spite of the changing times.

Ginger gazed at Marjory despairingly. "Oh, Margie, I should think you could do something. The world just overflowing with millionaires—praying every night for pretty wives—and you just wearing out here in Red Thrush."

Marjory carefully inspected a pink forefinger, questioning the shape of a nail. "Well, I'm willing," she answered, generously. "Trot one out."

Later in the afternoon as Eddy Jackson was passing in his small car, Ginger signaled him to stop and ran out to the curb.

"Something terrible is going on in this house," she said gloomily. "Faith, there is no better, and he is pretty disheartened. And Helen is going to postpone her wedding, and it will just make him sick."

Eddy turned the key in the car starting the engine. "That requires silent meditation," he said slowly. "What do you think about it?"

"I think it is terrible. I think it will break his heart."

They talked a while, and then he walked with her slowly up the dog stone path.

"Helen!" he called into the open door, and when she came out, he motioned her to join them in the vine shaded corner by the hammock. "I want to mix in other people's business, and put my fingers in other people's pies, and paddle other people's canoes and everything," he warned her.

"Do you? That is not quite like you, Eddy."

"I am changing. Ginger tells me that you think of postponing your wedding, Helen. We talked it over, and she and I think—"

Ginger sat up in the hammock and looked very important. This was showing some deference to her opinion. She tried to mirror in her small piquant face utterable depths of wisdom.

"She and I agree that it would be the worst thing that could happen."

"Eddy, do you not see how impossible it is for me to have home when

your father's burden the knowledge that he is stealing a year of his daughter's happiness. I dare say he is sick at heart, this very moment, dreading to come home and have you tell him, sweetly, that your happiness has been burned on the altar of daughterly duty."

Helen studied him seriously. "You are a wise, wise boy," she said gently. "And I think you are right. I could help more, that is true, if I were here in Red Thrush. And I know it would grieve him bitterly to have us change our plans. I could come every day and help them."

"And they could call on me in a pinch—"

"But Ginger is a such a child. So much responsibility—"

"Responsibility never hurt anybody. You had it when you were young, and it did you no harm. And Ginger is not a child. She is growing up."

Ginger stood up with a bored naughtiness. "Ellen is grown up now, if you ask me. And if you will excuse me, I shall go upstairs. I have some very important work to do."

On Friday afternoon, Mr. Tolliver and Miriam returned to a parsonage that smelled sweetly of wild roses, to three girls whose light wild voices gave an air of the gala with which they had watched in his approach, head lowered, shoulders sagging dispiritedly, his arm limp beneath Miriam's hand. And under the charm of their laughter, their smiles, their welcoming delight, his shoulders straightened presently, the tired lines in his face gave way to those of pleasure, and soon his laughter joined theirs.

"I can't take of the glasses just yet, you see," he said mischievously. "Still in the fog, as you might say."

"I rather thought it would take longer," said Helen sympathetically. "It would be foolish to rush things."

"But it's really too bad, father," put in Ginger gaily, "because I just wish you could see the carryings-on in this old house. Do you know what Marjory has on hand now? A grocery clerk, father. And not regular groceries, either. Canned ones. The Orange and Black. Maybe he will give us a discount."

Light laughter, light talk, which hid the sadness beneath, but did not hide the tenderness, the pervading sympathy, the great gladness that they were five together, even in their sorrow.



"Ginger Tells Me That You Think of Postponing Your Wedding, Helen."

"father needs me? Horace will understand. He will be glad to do his share in helping out."

"I am not thinking of Horace. I am thinking of your father. The doctors say he must have complete mental rest. Do you think he can be happy and serenely quiet, when he knows that you are sacrificing your dearest aims and plans on his account? Will not every touch of your hand and sound of your voice be a reproach to him?"

"Oh, Eddy, I couldn't bear to go away and be happy by myself, with father and the girls—"

"Quick tears flooded her quiet eyes."

"Yes, I am sure, Helen, you would be happier to stay at home, and work and sacrifice yourself. But your father's happiness is the thing that counts right now. Look at it this way, Helen. Think—and Ginger agrees with me—"

"Indeed I do," said Ginger stoutly. "We think you should go ahead as if this little setback amounts to nothing. Make light of it. Go on with your wedding. Helen, don't you see, that if you teach school you will be away, out of town, tied up with your work? But if you marry, you are right here at hand, ready to help. Your time will be your own. You can help Ginger, help your father, and he will realize what you are doing for him. If necessary, you and Horace can come and stay in the parsonage part of the time. But don't add to

Seventeenth of March Once "Noah's Ark Day"

Long before the Irish taught us that March 17 was St. Patrick's day, this date was celebrated in England for a very curious reason. In the Middle Ages it was regarded as the anniversary of the day upon which Noah entered the ark. Noah's Ark day was specially made the occasion for the performance of the mystery play that dramatized with considerable freedom the Biblical record of the flood. In this Noah's wife was always the principal comic character, being depicted as the typical shrew.

The quarrels between Noah and his helpmate created great amusement for the spectators. When the ark is ready the lady stoutly refuses to go in unless she may take some of her friends along. The patriarch, however, will not stand much nonsense, and when the time for embarkation comes he dispatches his three sons to bring their mother aboard. They find her with her gossips in a tavern, and after much rough play and broad comedy they seize her and drag her to the ark. Arrived there, she breaks out

as a worse termagant than ever: shrieking with rage, she sets about beating her husband, much to the diversion of the spectators of merry England.—Manchester Guardian.

Changing Signs.

It is suggested that the way things are going now, some bond houses may change the signs on the doors to read "Stock and Bond Brokers," which recalls the story of the man who owned a bucket shop in the West.

"What kind of a sign do you want on your door?" asked the sign painter engaged to do the work.

"Oh, just John Smith, Broker," replied the bucket shopper.

"Why don't you make it 'Banker and Broker?'" suggested the enterprising sign painter.

"How much would it cost?" inquired Smith.

"About \$2," replied the painter.

"Go to it," instructed Broker Smith. "Who wouldn't be a banker for \$2?"—Wall Street Journal.

Gigantic Statuary.

The measurements of the Sphinx are: Height of head from bottom of chin to forehead, 19 feet; horizontal diameter on level of forehead, 22 feet; circumference at level of forehead, 72 feet; horizontal diameter near broadest part of headgear, 29 feet; height of neck, 5 feet; horizontal diameter, 22 feet; circumference of neck, 69 feet; total height of monument, according to Mariette Bey, 65 feet; ear, 6 feet 15 inches; nose, 5 feet 10 inches; mouth, 7 feet 8 inches; face in widest part across the cheek, 13 feet; whole length of body, 140 feet; outstretched paws, 50 feet.

CHAPTER IV

In the living room Ginger found her three sisters. Helen was mending a frayed cuff for her father as prosaically as though in two weeks she would not be a bride trembling at the altar of her marriage. Miriam was straightening up the desk with an air of great distaste. Marjory was delicately powdering her nose, watching the operation in the mirror of a small metal case.

"Marjory, where did you get that vanity?" Ginger demanded.

Marjory closed it hastily and put it in her pocket. But Ginger was insistent.

"Marjory let me see that vanity. That's brand-new. Where did you get it?"

Marjory, thus driven, produced the article and confessed to an extravagance. She had bought it. It had cost her twenty-five cents. She had bought it from Alice Ideman. And at last, thoroughly committed, she explained in detail.

"It's really a very cute idea, Helen. I sent you a dollar to the company, and they send me a sterling silver one. Isn't it a cute idea?"

"It is like the old chair letter idea—"

"Exactly. Where you had to copy the prayer—"

"Or break the chain—"

"And it goes on and on—"

"All over the world—"

"Why, they'll sell thousands and thousands of them."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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with the numerous gables give it a very unusual and attractive exterior appearance. The house is, in reality, a story-and-a-half, but the steep pitched roof lines and the many gables give it the appearance of a full two-story building.

The room arrangement of this home

Most Important Part of House Is the Roof

The roof over a home is more than a covering over four walls. It is an important part of the house exterior and should receive the same architectural treatment and consideration as the rest of the house.

Good tile roofing insures weather-proofness. It resists and protects the house from all kinds of weather conditions.

Concrete is recognized as the most lasting of all building materials. Hawthorne tile is made from a rich mixture of portland cement and a clean and correctly graded sand. The curing process developed after a long period of close observation, prevents the disintegration customary on the surface of ordinary coarse concrete construction.

Spectacular tests have proved that the tile will not burn, although the rest of the building may be destroyed.

Most of Walnut Used Today Is Grown in U. S.

Following close upon the heels of tobacco and corn, one of the first exports from colonial America was of considerable quantities of American walnut.

The English cabinet makers of the Seventeenth century, ever alert for new materials, soon learned from visitors to America of the beauties of American walnut as distinguished from European species. So, at their request, a returning visitor first imported into England some American walnut in the year 1629.

Unusual Roof Lines and Window Arrangement Give Artistic Touch



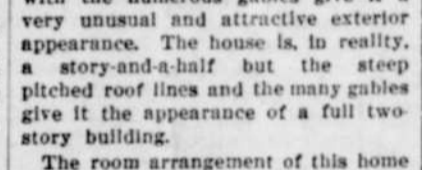
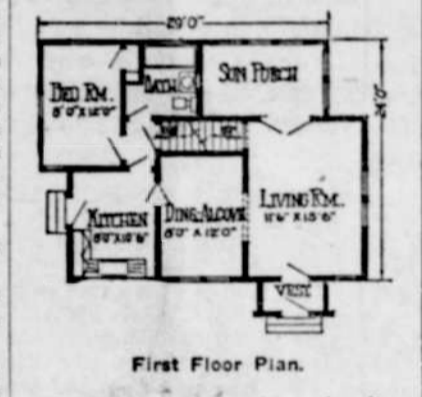
The roof lines and window arrangement in this house with the numerous gables give it a very unusual and attractive exterior appearance. The dimensions are 24 feet by 29 feet. There are six rooms and a good-sized sun porch. One bedroom on the ground floor is a convenience.

By W. A. RADFORD

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to practical home building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as editor, author and manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 407 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

There is a fascination about a shingled home. Shingles used on outside walls of a modern house are a silvered gray, which is an imitation of the stained shingles of New England seacoast towns. The silver effect comes from the action of the salt sea air on the unpainted wood and gives it a most pleasing and artistic effect.

The beauty of New England homes can be had anywhere in the country through the use of these treated shingles for exterior walls. A fine example of a home of this type is shown in the accompanying design. Here is a house 24 feet deep by 29 feet wide, containing six good-sized rooms and an unusual large sun porch at the back of the house connected with a large living room. The unusual roof lines and window arrangement in this home building design



Stairs to the second floor run out of the end of the living room and lead to a large hall on the second floor. There are two bedrooms. The one at the front of the house is unusually large being 12 feet by 19 feet and is made possible by the pitch of the roof. It has at the front a series of three windows and at the side two more windows, which make it a very attractive room. The other bedroom is at the rear corner and is rather small being only 10 feet 6 inches square.

This building design will appeal to prospective home builders who want a home suitable for a corner site. It will be seen by the illustration that this home fits nicely into a surrounding of lawn, shrubs and trees.

Water Drains of Lead Made Thing of Beauty

In houses of the English Tudor style, lead heads of elegant patterns are often cast in lead. Sometimes architects specify pressed copper, washed with lead. These practical water drains, frankly exposed, are made things of great beauty.

Light Woodwork Takes Antique Finish Well

An antique finish on woodwork may be used over any color which is not too dark. While raw amber is the most popular for the glaze, any one of a great variety of colors may be used for this purpose. A darker shade of the base color is always a good choice.

If Baby has COLIC

A cry in the night may be the first warning that baby has colic. No cause for alarm if Castoria is handy! This pure vegetable preparation brings quick comfort, and can never do the slightest harm. Always keep a bottle in the house. It is the safe and sensible thing when children are ailing. Whether it's the stomach, or the little bowels; colic or constipation; or diarrhea. When tiny tongues are coated, or the breath is bad. Whenever there's need of gentle regulation. Children love the taste of Castoria, and its mildness makes it suitable for the tiniest infant, and for frequent use. And a more liberal dose of Castoria is always better for growing children than some needlessly strong medicine meant only for adult use. Genuine Castoria always has Chas. H. Fletcher's signature on the wrapper. Prescribed by doctors!

Can't Feel Awfully Good

Mrs. Prim—I think a woman looks good even when she is approaching middle age, don't you, John?

Mr. Prim—Well—yes, looks good, but she can't feel so awfully good.—New Bedford Standard.

Some men grumble because they can find nothing to grumble about.

A reliable function of flowers in doors is to brighten up a rainy day.

Practical Diagnosis

Dr. Stanford Read, a practicing physician of London, states that a recent who had defrauded his brother recently came to him complaining of loss of appetite, indigestion and debility. The doctor, discovering the mental factor, ordered the patient to repay his brother. The patient did, and is now cured.

If no one shows it, alarm is not so terrifying.

Goes to Hospital to Learn Beauty Aid

"THE first time I heard of it," writes Mrs. E. Whitney of 35 Parker Street, Bangor, Maine, "was when I was at the Hospital. I was very nervous and run down and after my baby daughter was born the doctor began giving me something. In about ten days I felt like a new person. Before then, I was miserable. My skin was in very bad condition and I could not understand what made it clear up so quickly."

"Before I left I asked the House Doctor what kind of medicine it was that cleared up my skin and made me feel so much better. He said 'My dear girl, didn't you ever hear of Nujol? Hospitals aren't the only place where you can get it! You can buy it most everywhere!'"

"I have been using Nujol ever since, and I think it is wonderful."

That's the great thing about Nujol. Not a medicine, contains no drugs, can't possibly hurt you, forms no habit—and if you are like most other people its simple natural way of bodily lubrication will do wonders for you, too.

You see, all of us have an excess of body poisons that make our skins

Fireproof Ledger Paper

A rag fiber permanent ledger paper has been developed by a manufacturing concern in co-operation with the bureau of standards. It remains practically unaffected when heated for 72 hours at a temperature of 100 degrees centigrade.—Boston Herald.

Wooden

"I hate to have the leading man get interested in the star."

"It will happen."

"Yes, and it makes their love scenes so unconvincing."

How trying to undertake a heart to heart talk with a man who appears to have no inside at all.

It sometimes happens that the bride is the best man at the wedding.

"Yes, my wife explained me without reason."

"Ah, so that's how you lost it?"

Ugly Dimples?

Ugly Dimples? Your mother's warning—help restore your complexion and put red roses in your pale, yellow cheeks. Truly wonderful! Follow thorough skin cleansing. Take NR TO-NIGHT. It will give you a clear, bright complexion and strengthen your skin's natural defenses. With this transformation, try NR instead of more laxatives.

NR TO-NIGHT

Tomorrow—ALRIGHT

Nearly all of one's talk is unappreciated; so why waste words?

He who thinks himself wise, oh heavens!—is a great fool.—Voltaire.

Backache Bother You?

A Persistent Backache Often Warns of Sluggish Kidneys.

DOES every day find you lame and aching—suffering nagging backache, headache and dizzy spells? Are kidney excretions too frequent, scanty or burning in passage? These are often signs of sluggish kidneys and should not be neglected.

To promote normal kidney action and assist your kidneys in cleansing your blood of poisonous wastes, use Doan's Pills. Endorsed the world over. Sold by good dealers everywhere.

50,000 Users Endorse Doan's!

Mrs. L. Dietz, 2115 S Street, Sacramento, Calif., says: "I usually feel grateful to Doan's Pills. Every week I feel better and I feel tired and nervous. At times I had such a lancet across the back that it was very hard to get around. My kidneys were not acting normally. I started to use Doan's Pills and I am glad I did. Now I enjoy good health."

Doan's Pills

A Stimulant Diuretic to the Kidneys