

# STRANGE ADVENTURES OF BESSIE BUSYBODY



1—DID YOU EVER HEAR of a Genie? 'Course you have. You know those powerful spirits in the Arabian Nights that could do all kinds of wonderful things. Well, I was sailing along 'way up in the air on the Magic Broomstick when I spied a queer-looking cloud in the distance.



2—AS I SAILED CLOSER it looked jes' as if there was some funny kind of a Hoodoo man lying asleep right on top of the cloud. I know right away that he was some kind of a magic creature, 'cause who ever heard of a man lying on top of a cloud? Well, I shouted "Hello! Wake up!" a few times, and the strange man sat up and dug his fists in his sleepy eyes.



3—MEBBE HE WASN'T surprised to see me! Then he told me that he was a Genie and invited me to come see his wonderful palace, and he would set out such a feast for me that I would dream about it ever after. Of course I was rather skeered to go, for I know those Genies have a bad reputation, but the dinner was more than I could turn down.



4—SO WE SPED through the air and soon arrived at the castle tower. I heard a voice screaming "Go 'way! The Genie brought you here to eat off your head and eat you! Go 'way!" Well, that skeered the wits out o' me, and I jes' jerked the broomstick around and shot up into the air like a flash.



5—BUT THAT TERRIBLE Genie was right after me, and mebbe he didn't bellow and roar when he saw his dinner escaping from him! He kept gaining on me all the time, and I had given up all hope when I saw a big white cloud ahead.



6—MEBBE I DIDN'T shoot right into that cloud! It was jes' like the heaviest fog. Couldn't see a yard, but I could hear Mr. Genie roaring through it as he darted back and forth searching for me.



7—IN A MINUTE I knew I could be caught, 'cause the cloud was not very big, so I made a dash for the open air again. I was jes' getting clear of the cloud when I felt a sudden jerk on the broomstick that nearly sent me head over heels into space.



8—BUT I CLUNG on, and so did the Genie, for he had me all right all right! So I went along with him peacefully, and he was so mad he couldn't say anything.



9—IN A FEW minutes we arrived at the castle, and I knew that my doom was sealed, and that I probably would be served up for dinner the next day. Mebbe I was, and mebbe I wasn't. You jes' better read the story I have written for next week, and then you'll know jes' as much about it as I do.