

Standing At The Portals

by Sarah Hege

Genius—bah! Pat slammed the thick anthology. Drunkenness, debauchery, insanity . . . The same story over and over. Why was it that the great poets—the ones that were so sensitive to beauty and who valued the immaterial things of the world—lived such unhappy lives . . . Genius—bah!

Pat crossed the room to the bookcase. For four years she had built up a small library of her own. From Shakespeare, Moliere, Hardy, to Wolfe, Lewis, and Steinbeck, the books lined the shelves. There were stories of people struggling for happiness. Some were humorous; and some were depressing. . .

"Pat. Telephone." Mrs. Raye moved to the bottom of the stairs. "Pat!"

"Coming." There was a quick shuffling of bedroom shoes on the stairway and Pat was at the phone.

"Hello." For a moment her eyes brightened and then dulled. "Bob. Oh, no, I hadn't forgotten."

She worked her foot in and out of her slipper. Bob always did most of the talking when he called her over the telephone. "Uh-huh." She began to pick nervously at a mole on her cheek. "Yes, I'll be ready by eight. . . No. . . Bye."

Pat put the receiver down. The clock had just chimed seven-fifteen. Well, she thought, that last mythological reference will have to wait . . . and genius . . . study . . . education . . . master's degree. . .

She had to decide, she told herself, as she walked slowly up the stairs and began running the water for her bath. Was she, Pat Raye, going to enter graduate school, or was she going to work temporarily and marry Bob. . .

The concert was over. Pat and Bob mingled with the crowd, laugh-

ing and talking, first to someone on their right, and then to someone on their left. In this small town of Glenville everyone knew what happened to his neighbors. Last year when Pat had been inducted in Phi Beta Kappa, her picture had appeared in the local paper. People congratulated her when they met her on the street. They took it for granted that someday she would be a brilliant scholar. With a diploma from the University of North Carolina, Pat could make a name for their town.

The crowd began to thin as Bob unlocked the car door and helped Pat in. "Bob, wasn't that third movement beautiful?" Pat looked up at the profile outlined in the flicker of his cigarette lighter. Bob was twenty-four. He had wanted to study law but was forced to find work at the end of his sophomore year. There were five boys in his family to get an education.

"Yes, it was, Pat. I particularly liked that part when the violins sounded, well, almost lyrical." Bob waited for a red light, shifted into second, high, and drove on.

"Pat, have you decided about graduate school yet? The summer's almost over."

"No—or at least not, exactly." She was all mixed up. How did she feel? The more education you had the unhappier you could be. She couldn't marry a man with little education. Besides most men like to feel that they are superior.

"I wish you'd forget it and accept my proposition. Pat, you know I love you. I've told you that a thousand times. I know I'm only a bookkeeper and my salary is rather small, but, Pat we could live comfortably." Bob rounded the corner and stopped the car in front of the Raye home.

"Let's go sit in the living room, Bob. I see mother left a lamp turn-

ed low." Time—she had to have time. But why? Hadn't she been over this to herself again and again? Did she want security, marriage, and children, or did she want education, a master's degree, and perhaps a name for herself. . .

Bob closed the car door, and they strolled hand in hand up the front walk onto the porch and into the living room. Only the ticking of the clock broke the silence as they sat down on the couch.

A master's degree . . . marriage . . . unhappiness . . . security . . . Then Pat made her decision. And a diamond sparkled as Bob took her hand.

AT THE THEATRES

CAROLINA

Saturday—May 5
"The Princess and the Pirate"
Monday - Tuesday—May 7 - 8
"Dark Waters"
Wednesday - Saturday—May 9 - 12
"A Tree Grows in Brooklyn"

FORSYTH

Saturday—May 5
"What a Blond"
Monday - Tuesday—May 7 - 8
"The Princess and the Pirate"
Wednesday - Thursday—May 9 - 10
"When Irish Eyes Are Smiling"
Friday - Saturday—May 11 - 12
"Papa"

STATE

Saturday—May 5
"Utah"
Monday - Tuesday—May 7 - 8
"Babes on Swing Street"
Wednesday - Thursday—May 9 - 10
"Sign of the Cross"
Friday - Saturday—May 11 - 12

Financial Report Of Annual Stated

In the Presidents' Forum Tuesday night, May 1, the question was raised as to where the money went that remained after all Sights and Insights expenses were paid every year. An investigation showed that the Sights and Insights was a corporation which was established in 1924. Since this time all remaining funds have been accumulating. Now these funds are collectively called "our trust fund."

The trust fund is to serve two purposes:

- (1) to insure free annuals sometime in the distant future for all Salemites through the years that Salem College publishes an annual.
- (2) to supply needed funds in case of any financial difficulty.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO DATE

Income:	
Interest on trust fund	\$ 34.92
Student Budget	3,164.50
Advertising	455.00
Total income to date	\$3,654.42
Expenses:	
Benson	\$ 594.36
Piedmont	640.20
Goodrich	649.00
Miscellaneous	44.92
Total Expenses	\$1,928.48
Balance:	\$1,725.94

These figures of both expenses and income are not complete since the Sights and Insights will receive further bills and further payments from advertisements.

Welcome Salem Students
20TH CENTURY BOWLING ALLEY
631 W. 4th St.
Bowl For Health and Recreation

JUNIOR PICNIC

Once more the Junior Class invites the student body and faculty to a picnic to be given on Saturday, May 12. The plans will proceed as previously announced. A picnic supper will be served at 6:30 in Washington Park. Earlier in the afternoon there will be a softball game for all who want to play, and after supper there will be an amateur program featuring Salem talent.

In order to plan for the picnic, the Juniors have asked that each girl who wants to go sign her name on the cards placed on the dining room tables for that purpose. Then, on Saturday afternoon between 4:30 and 6:00, all the girls should meet in the smokehouse of Alice Clewell building to be guided to Washington Park by the following members of the Junior Class: Senora Lindsey, Wink Wall, Vidette Bass, Lou Stack, Jane Bell, Julia Garrett, Rosalind Clark, Marianne Everett, Nancy Snyder, Mollie Cameron, Jane Lovelace, and Marjorie Conrad.

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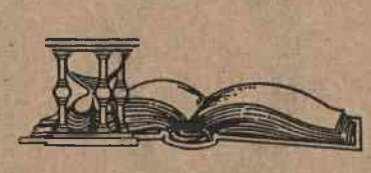
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May Queen and Her Court

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