

Fantastique

By MURRELL SMITH

My journey takes me by silly, conceited crowds of people with penetrating eyes. Along a cobblestone street lined with cannon overlooking the sound, horses are transporting goods.

I go across a steel bridge lined with men and boys fishing for carp and catfish; on down a road where a dilapidated oil mill has been abandoned by time; across railroad tracks that stretch interminably; over sand cliffs and through a beautiful colonial plantation where a loyalist sovereign once lived.

I pass green cypress drooping from weariness laden with moss and dropping green balls.

At the edge of an enchanted forest, fascinated by beauty, a lovely girl with blond hair, blue eyes and pink complexion moves directly towards me. I recognize her at once as Trooper, my childhood doll. Trooper looks charming and delightful as she takes my hand and leads me through strawberry Christ-mas trees and sugar-coated maples.

Although it is warm, sugar-powdered snowflakes chew and crunch beneath our feet. Silver-rose candy crystals dance and surround us, tingling and shattering as they fall. We walk on through sheer delight of beauty.

The moon climbs and etches everything into a silhouette of enchantment. Scintillating designs emerge and encircle us. Chocolate-covered cherries hang from rose-colored branches. Cotton candy covers the shrubbery. Ice cream hills and soda pop streams are every place.

Birds with bright red and golden feathers light on our shoulders, sprinkling particles of stardust. Orange and pink icicles tingle as we pass; icy notes encircle us. Across a blue pond drops of scattered moonlight cast long shadows of transparent clouds.

Our voices echo and reverberate through the magic silver-clustered forest with ringing excitement and tingling sensations.

We pass by glass castles tinkling in the wind with light sounds. Candy trees are richly decorated with bright-colored flags.

Trooper and I laugh at an almond-colored reindeer eating brilliant red sugar drops from a silver-coated tree. We can see high pancake mountains running with black molasses.

We walk through tall sugar canes covered with honey. Tulips wrapped with glittering diamonds and lilacs drooping with glowing sapphires line the path. Emerald green lightning bugs shimmer in the night as the moonbeams shine on silky snowflakes.

Dawn brings a changing light of reflections from the silver forest—red, then rose-silver. A lustrous shooting star glistens through the sky like something wet or sleek, then bursts into a thousand indescribable formations and glittering scenes.

Trooper gleefully points at a beautiful antelope glowing of starlight, eating in a golden garden. We watch in amazement as a giraffe, with light cream and enfolded in orange sunbeams, rambles about with dignity through pale yellow fog, without touching it. A gazelle glaring with turquoise and glimmering in topaz runs by. An ostrich plumed in ruby fire ermine struts by. We pass a Swiss chalet behind gooseberry bushes laden with berries.

Trooper and I stop suddenly as we see an ancient Teutonic Gothic cathedral arching upward. We feel tender emotions as we kiss and bid one another an enduring farewell.

As the brightness from the silver forest dissolves, golden drops from the sun awaken me into reality...

Once again crowds, with penetrating eyes, walk along cobblestone streets hawking their goods.

LEGAL NOTICES

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of Erving D. Spivey, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of July, 1968, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 4th day of January, 1968.

Erving Trotman Spivey, Harvey McLean Spivey, Executors of the Estate of Erving D. Spivey, Deceased.

Jan 4 11 18 25p

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of T. C. Roberts, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of July, 1968, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 4th day of January, 1968.

W. H. ROBERTS, JOHN E. ROBERTS, MARY R. WARREN, Executors of the Estate of T. C. Roberts, Deceased. W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., Attorney.

Jan 11 18 25 Feb 1

Administrators Notice

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Erman W. Griffin, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of July, 1968, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 2nd day of January, 1968.

JACK W. HARRELL, Administrator of the Estate of Erman W. Griffin, Deceased.

W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., Attorney.

Jan 4 11 18 25

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of J. C. Lane, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of July, 1968, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 29th day of December, 1967.

HENRY T. LANE, Executor of the Estate of J. C. Lane, Deceased.

W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., Attorney.

Jan 4 11 18 25

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