

# AT THE WHEEL

By SUSANNE GLENN

Eula Gardner stood on the hotel veranda in a trig brown linen frock and a white felt hat.

"Do you mean to say that you are going on the water this morning?" asked a dozen girls.

"I most assuredly am," answered Eula, glancing out to where crisp little waves flashed saucily on the surface of the bay.

"But consider—the great Fenmore has arrived; we beheld him with our own eyes. And, oh, Eula, but he is fine to look at!"

"Glad to hear it," she replied brightly, "but what can be gained by sitting out a day like this on this veranda?"

"Think of your complexion, careless child! How will you look in the parlors this evening to the critical eye of an artist, with your face sunburned and your golden curls wind-ruffled?"

"One day will not suffice to restore to me my former beauty. I therefore generously leave the coast clear for the rest of you, and continue to enjoy myself!"

With a laugh, she ran down to the pier where her tiny motor boat was tied ready for her.

"She is certainly a wonder with a boat," observed the girls who watched her puff jauntily away.

"She is right when she says she leaves the coast clear for the rest of us, though. These capable, independent sort of girls are never popular with men of artistic temperaments."

And each girl began secretly to wonder in which particular gown she would most resemble the wonderful creations of the great Fenmore's magic brush.

The little white boat with the girl at the wheel sped from one favorite point of the bay to another.

"There's something wrong this morning," said Eula, listening to the beat of the engine.

She headed out into the center of the bay, which chanced to be clear of boats at that hour, and knelt down with her back toward the box to find the trouble.

The skipping became more and more frequent, and the girl's brows were pressed into wrinkles of annoyance.

Suddenly a crash and a cry brought her to her feet. She was headed toward shore, and a little stern lay overturned skiff, with a man clinging to it.

"Oh," cried the girl, motionless with horror, "what can I do? Hang on, hang on!" she screamed, her presence of mind returning, and she swept back in a big curve toward him.

"Oh," she sobbed, "it is all my fault! If the engine only holds out!"

As she ran up close on the opposite side of the skiff she flung out a life preserver.

"Can you swim?" she called.

"Yes—yes," he nodded back.

She took another circle while the man put on the jacket with one hand, clinging to the boat with the other. She did not dare stop the engine for fear she could not start it again in its present condition.

"I must tow him ashore," she thought. "There is no use in attempting to get him into the boat—I am too weak, and the boat is top small!"

When she came up the second time she flung out the tow rope, and slowed down the engine as much as she dared. The man caught the rope with difficulty. All his motions were strangely slow and labored.

With the utmost difficulty she drew him to the side of her craft.

"Do you think you can hang on until we get ashore?" she asked anxiously.

"I'll try," he smiled with a look that made Eula sob.

With one hand she clung to his coat. The other outstretched as far as possible, just reached the wheel. They entered quiet water under shelter of the point, and Eula loosening her grasp upon the exhausted man, turned off the switch.

As the little boat grounded upon the beach the girl was out over the side, helping the staggering man to dry land.

He sank senseless upon the warm sand.

"Oh, I don't know what to do," the poor girl cried, frantically removing the cork jacket and his water-filled coat and shoes.

The grating of the boat's bow reminded her to secure it, and also to get the flask she always kept in the locker.

"Did I faint?" he asked in a dazed way.

"I thought you were dead," she sobbed.

"Why, don't worry like this, child; I was not in the water long enough. But some way in going over I hit my head and left hand. That bothered me about holding on, and after awhile my head felt queer."

"Do not talk," ordered Eula, brusque in her relief.

With great difficulty she helped him to a shady nook and made him comfortable with boat cushions.

"I must go out after your boat if you can stay alone," she said.

"Oh, don't be long," he cautioned.

Presently she came back, triumphantly.

"You're a great girl on the water," he observed admiringly. "My name is Richards—I just came to the hotel this morning."

"You are making sport of me," cried Eula blushing furiously. "I really never did such a thing before in all my boating experience."

"I am wondering," ignoring her interruption, "if you can possibly be the sister of whom Dick Gardner is so proud?"

"That is my brother's name," she admitted.

"Then we are old acquaintances. Dick is coming down this afternoon—he'll tell you about me."

The young man seemed to be recovering very rapidly.

"I'm hungry as a bear," he admitted.

"That is a good indication, isn't it, Miss Gardner?"

With much merriment Richards built a fire of the sticks Eula gathered. He opened cans from the tinned provisions with which the locker was stocked and made coffee over the coals.

When they returned to the hotel under the breathless heat of the afternoon sun, the piazza was deserted.

"Look, look," breathed the dainty, charming girl gathered in the parlors that evening. "There he comes. Isn't he stunning in evening clothes?"

"I wonder now if Eula doesn't regret her ride? She seems to have burned worse than usual."

Someone led the distinguished young artist forward. He greeted each girl with a kindly, sweeping look that she felt took in every detail of her appearance.

"Miss Gardner," he said, his eyes twinkling; "I believe we have met before!"

Eula's flushed face grew a little pale.

"Come out on the veranda," he begged. "I must plead my cause right away. My name is Richards—but that doesn't happen to be all there is of it. Indeed I did not mean to deceive you—only, I got tired of being Fenmore the artist, and like to be just a young man whom no one ever heard of!"

Eula smiled as she walked away.

"Do you receive so much attention?" she asked audaciously.

"Everything seems to come my way—I'm not even safe upon the boundless deep!"

"Oh, I say, thank Heaven Fen is out of the way," observed Dick Gardner cheerfully, seeing Fenmore and his sister leaving the room. "Now there's some chance for the rest of us poor chaps!"

Fenmore moved some chairs into the moonlight.

"Miss Eula," he said, "will you take me on the water in the morning? It is absolutely unsafe for me to go alone, and I must get some sketches. In fact, I'd like to charter your boat for the season!"

"But my boat is out of order, Mr. Fenmore. It is liable to stop at any moment."

"Then we'll stock up that locker and take plenty of sketching materials."

"But my aunt objects to the water," murmured Eula suggestively.

The young man was silent for a moment, looking at her intently.

"Miss Eula," he said softly, leaning toward her, "I'll bribe Dick into going with us for a week. I'll give you seven days to—care as much as I do! Then we will qualify ourselves to dispense with a third person!"

Eula gasped.

"Do I take your breath? Well, you deprived me of mine this morning! Eula, I've adored you for months. I adored you this morning when you ran me down—you never did a cleverer thing! I'm so tired of my lonely little craft—I want you at the wheel—dear."

"I shall doubtless run over you every day," observed the girl softly.

"I have no doubt you will," answered Fenmore with conviction, but joyously.

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In the Village of Gist, in Carroll County, Maryland.

By virtue of the power and authority contained in two mortgages from Andrew C. Phillips and Susie E. Phillips, his wife, to William B. Thomas, the one bearing date August 11, 1910, and recorded among the chattel and Bond Records of Carroll county, in Liber D. P. S., No. 23, folio 150, and the other dated March 29th, 1911, and recorded among the Real Estate Mortgage Records of Carroll county, in Liber O. D. G., No. 57, folio 497, the undersigned mortgagee will offer at public sale, on the premises occupied by Andrew G. Phillips and wife, in the village of Gist, in Berrett district, in Carroll county, Maryland, on

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17th, 1912,**  
at 12 o'clock M., all the following personal property mentioned in said mortgages, and which mortgages are filed in No. 4635 Equity in the Circuit Court for Carroll county, to-wit:—1 SOBBET MARE, about 9 years old; one bay SUCKLING COLT, one steel colored HORSE, about 9 years old; one broad tread wagon, one Osborne Binder, one double row Tiger corn planter, two Oliver chilled furrow plows, one spring tooth harrow, one double A harrow, one truck wagon, one Bickford & Hoffman grain drill, one four-horse hay carriage, one MOUSE COLORED HORSE, 12 years old; one yellow and white spotted COW, 6 years old; lot of straw and hay. Also all the right, title and interest in and to all that parcel of land, situate in 14th Election District, in Carroll County, State of Maryland, adjoining the village of Gist, containing 116 1/2 ACRES, more or less, being the land that was conveyed by Robert Wheeler, Trustee, to Peyton E. Buckingham, by deed dated April 16, 1888, and recorded among the land Records of Carroll county, in Liber W. N. M., No. 67 folio 437, and of which said Peyton E. Buckingham, died, seized and intestate.

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