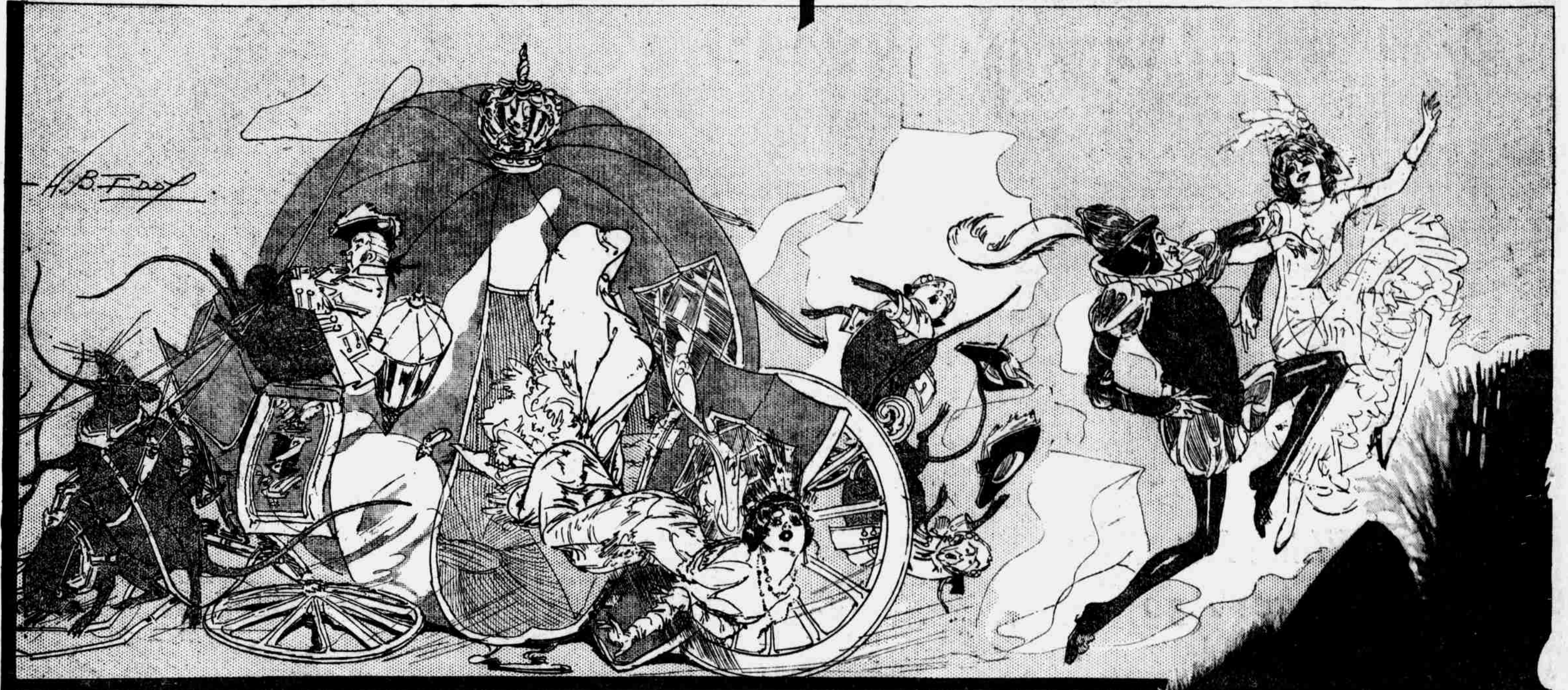


Copyright, 1921, by American-Examiner. Great Britain Rights Reserved.

## When Cinderella's Pumpkin Coach Went Smash



"It was just like that, perhaps, for Cinderella of old—Smash went the enchanted coach! Away scurried the enchanted servants! Off went the enchanted Prince after another enchantress!"

PHOTO BY  
READLEY N.Y.

### All the Gaudy Footmen Turned Back into Rats, the Crystal Slipper Broken, and Prince Charming off After a Dancer---The End of a Beautiful Kentucky Belle's Romance

ARE all fairy tales true to life? Could Jack climb the beanstalk to-day? Could a wolf really gobble up some Little Red Riding Hood? Could Cinderella go to the ball in her pumpkin coach, lose her glass slipper and marry the prince? And, if she married him, could she live happily ever after, as the fairy tale says that she did? Of all modern Cinderellas the most interesting is Mrs. Edward R. Thomas, who was

beautiful Linda Lee, of Kentucky. The old Cinderella had three sisters. Our modern Cinderella has one sister, Jouett, as pretty and fascinating as Linda herself. There are five chapters in this harrowing tale; all human passions play their part. Cinderella gets her jewels, her luxuries, her pumpkin coaches, her white rat horses, her Prince Charming, and then loses them all! Everything goes to smash. Prince Charming breaks his legs in a motor accident. Breaks his heart and breaks up his home, all because of a pretty actress, and then smash goes the marriage certificate. The scene of this first chapter is laid in Louisville twelve years ago.

#### Sister Jouett Marries the Poor Prince

On a modest side street of the Kentucky city live the two Lee girls, Linda and Jouett. Their home is a quaint old gabled house, hidden behind flowering shrubs. Their father, William Lee, holds a position in the gas company of the town. By birth, the sisters are entitled to go with the proudest in the land. But, alas! they are long on lineage but short on money. Mr. Lee's salary of \$1,500 a year does not provide many luxuries for his daughters. Jouett is more contented than her sister Linda. She sings happily while making up her simple muslin frocks. But Linda frowns and adds to her daily prayers the ever increasing one, "Oh, Lord, give us riches." Every year the Autumn season brings men and women of great wealth to Louisville. Linda looks on their diamonds, their horses, their servants, and says to Jouett: "I shall marry a rich man, no matter how old or ugly he may be."

While Linda is yearning for riches, Jouett has fallen in love with a girlhood chum, Worth Otto. He has no fortune. He earns \$80 a month. Louisville says that it is a very good match for one of the Lee girls. Jouett is very happy, and scoffs at Linda's prayer for riches. "We cannot meet these millionaires," sagely says Jouett. "They are here to-day and gone to-morrow. I shall take the goods the gods provide and marry Worth." They marry, and begin to live very happily. In fairy stories life apparently ends when the lovers marry. In reality, life only begins at marriage. Life did not begin for Jouett until she married Worth.

#### Sister Linda Weds the Rich Prince

Just after Jouett's marriage Linda persuades her father to send her to Florida for a month. It is the height of the season. At Palm Beach she meets Edward R. Thomas, a millionaire racing man, banker and yachtman. Mr. Thomas is the great catch of the Palm Beach season. He looks into Miss Lee's blue eyes, and his freedom slips away. He is bound by those eyes and the most exquisite complexion he has ever seen. Mr. Thomas fulfills every desire of the Kentucky belle's heart. He is a millionaire, he has horses, yachts, houses and lands to give her, and he is young, tall and handsome. A true fairy prince. She returns to Louisville, engaged to marry General Samuel Thomas's heir.

What a change now comes in the lives of the sisters! Linda marries Mr. Thomas and whirls away in her private car. She has

maids at her beck and call, diamonds, pearls, rubies in her jewel chest, practically unlimited wealth at her command. Jouett, just as pretty, just as fascinating, remains in Louisville to keep house on \$80 a month. Thus endeth the second chapter.

#### Princess Cinderella Won't Let Sister Get Divorced

A year later Mrs. Edward R. Thomas drops down on Louisville. She arrives in her private car. She goes to see Jouett. Jouett is doing her own work, her hands are roughened. She looks tired. Linda is wearing a gown that cost \$600, a hat that cost \$80. "One month's salary," mutters Jouett Otto, when Linda chatters on about her clothes and jewels.

"Ned is going to buy me the most valuable race horse in the world," said Linda. (Later Ned bought Hermis, paid \$50,000 for him, and gave him to Linda.)

"We go to Newport for the Summer," rattled on Linda. "I've taken a lease on Stoneacre, and if I like it Ned says he will buy the place for me."

Jouett looks about her little six-room home. It does not look much like Newport to her! When Worth came home to supper that night he found his pretty wife in tears. Things happened quickly. Before Linda's first season at Newport was over Jouett was suing Worth for divorce. She could no longer stand Linda's opulence. In the midst of her social triumphs at Newport Mrs. Thomas hears of the divorce and hurries to Louisville. "There can be no divorce in my family," says Linda. "I'm tired of being poor," wails Jouett. "I want to be free."

But Linda is firm. She patches up the trouble, sends her sister and her husband to Europe for a second honeymoon and returns to Newport.

Does Mrs. Thomas, the Newport belle, ever think of her girlhood in Louisville? Not often! Her life is too full. In the winter she has her opera box, her \$10,000 suite at the St. Regis, her motors, all that money can buy. Her Summers are just as replete with pleasures. She gives dances and dinner parties that cost fifty thousand—yes, even sixty thousand dollars. She rides on the crest of the wave. Can anything mar her happiness, her worldly success? Let us read chapter IV.

#### But Sister Does, and Weds a Richer Prince

Jouett Otto and her husband return to Louisville after a leisurely and luxurious European trip. Alas for Jouett! The little house is no bigger, the \$80 a month goes no further. The result is inevitable! She sues a second time for divorce and sister Linda cannot help matters any. The decree is granted. Jouett is free again. And before very long she takes a leaf from Sister Linda's book of life and marries a multi-millionaire, William Wallace, a Western mine owner. Jouett now has diamonds, pearls, motor cars, yachts, footmen and maids! And does Linda rejoice in her sister's happiness? Does our modern Cinderella approve of her sister's second marriage? Does she believe in her heart that it is money and not love that makes the world go round? Riches can take wings and fly away, motor cars can be smashed, yachts sunk. Does love pass at the same time?

Before we can fully understand the denouement of this very modern tale we must catch

up a few loose threads. Mrs. Thomas married the wealthy to gratify her social ambitions. Throughout chapters I and III, we find her moving swiftly from one pinnacle to another. She achieves Newport with great rapidity.

Mr. Thomas all this time is moving just as rapidly in other ways. He exceeds the speed limit in his financial career and comes a cropper. He loses some of his millions. He has to retrench. And this happens at about the time that he smashes his legs in a motor accident. It is a smash-up all around, for his domestic career also ends at about this time. Cinderella finds her world made of sawdust and ashes, her pumpkin coach disappears, her white-rat horses scamper away, her prince follows strange goddesses. And she finds herself almost at the place she was when she married her Prince Charming. Chapter IV, is indeed full of tragedy, but what of chapter V?

#### Divorce for Cinderella; Diamonds for Sister

Here in the Summer of Nineteen-Twelve we find Jouett, the one-time poor sister, living in the lap of luxury. Her every wish is gratified. She offered to rent Sister Linda's Newport house for the Summer, but Sister Linda refused. That would have been turning the knife in the wound. And so Sister Jouett goes West in her private car, but promises to return next Winter and display her pearls and diamonds at the opera. "I shall have my own box next season," says the once poor sister. "I am having a wonderful tiara designed. It will be far handsomer than anything ever seen in the Diamond Horse Shoe."

And Sister Linda sighs and thinks of her too few years of glorious, intoxicating plenty.

Sister Linda no longer possesses yachts, tiaras, motors galore, but she has something she never thought of in those spendthrift days. She has a brand new divorce decree. She is no longer the wife of the one-time multi-millionaire. He is free, and so is she. Such a sad ending for even a modern Cinderella! But does it not seem that most of our modern fairy tales wind up with a divorce decree? "They married and lived happily ever after." No! They marry and live unhappily until such time as the law will permit them to part.

But what of fickle Mr. Thomas and the sprightly lady who threw Cinderella's Coach off its track? The sprightly lady is Theodora Gerard, better known as "Teddy," of Paris and New York. She is named in Cinderella's bill of complaint and is very famous because she originated one form of the curious "vampire dance," which was known, too, back in fairy times.

Alas for Prince Charming! He follows her to Monte Carlo and there she won't have anything more to do with him. Mr. Thomas, say the dispatches, is hiding his mortification and identity behind an immense, newly-acquired red moustache!

Perhaps it was just like that back in the times when the first Cinderella lived.



"Teddy" Gerard, the Dancer Who Upset Cinderella's Pumpkin Coach.



The Beautiful Mrs. E. R. Thomas Who Has Just Divorced Her Prince Charming.