

## "Going on Eighteen"

OH, JUDY, IT'S ONLY WASH BILLY IS TAKING TO THE LAUNDRY FOR HIS MOTHER!




THIRTEEN, No. 5, Noyembor-January 19s3, Phbliahed quarterly by Doll Publiahing Co., Inc., 750 Third Avenue, Now York 17, N.Y. Holen Meyer, President; Wiliam F. Caliahan, Ir., Executlive Yice-President, Harold Clark, Vice-President-Advertising Director! Bryce L. Molland, VicePresidont. All rights reserved throughout the world. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y. and at Sparta, tilinols, Single copy price 124. Subscriptions in U.S.A. and Possessions 60 C one year, Subscriptlons in canada 75 c one year; Pan American and Foreign Countries goc a year. OELL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICEs P.O. Box 2200, Grand Central P.O., Now York 17, N.Y. The events contained herein are fictional and any resemblance to any person, living or dead, is purely coincidental. Pinted in U.S.A. Designed, produced, and copyright © 1962 by Deil Pubilishing Ca, Inc.
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WELL... I HAVE SOME COMPETITIONOF A SORT- HE HAS THIS ANCIENT FALOPY HE'S POSITIVELY CRAZY ABOUT! BUT I THINK I'LL OUTLAST IT!



## BOY! SOME CHARACTER IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD SURE HAS A NERVE!









FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER


...SO FAR, THERE'S BEEN NO WORD FROM THEIR PARENTS AS TO WHAT AILS THESE BOYS... MEANWHILE, I CALLED THIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CAUTION THE-ER-MORE IMAGINATIVE AMONG YOU WHO MIGHT THINK THERE'S AN EPIDEMIC OF SOME MYSTERIOUS DISEASE THAT ATTACKS ONLY BOYS-PLEASE-PLEASE DONT JUMP TO ANY SUCH SILLY CONCLUSION?














## TOMMROX THERTRI

Terry's mother almost dropped the big serving platter,she was drying when the front door slammed as only Terry could slam it.
"Mother!" Terry shouted, "where are you?"
For a moment Terry's mother stood hugging the platter, eyes closed.
"Here!" she finally called, turning to the cabinet and starting to raise the platter to put it away.

Terry bounded into the kitchen and stood behind her mother.
"Look what my friend, Joe, gave me, mother!" she cried happily.
Terry's mother knew that Joe was Terry's best friend. (At least Terry thought so) and almost constant companion-almost, because sometimes, for no reason Terry could figure out, Joe preferred the company of other boys. Even then, Terry could always be found somewhere nearby, waiting patiently for Joe to come to his senses and take up with her again.

Terry and Joe had the same likes and dislikes-they both like sports and disliked girls. The fact that Terry was a girl was never mentioned. Terry often said to her mother that Joe should go in the diplomatic service when he grew up because he had the most wonderful way of pretending he didn't notice that she was a girl.

But, now, to hear that Joe had given Terry a gift! Could it be that their rough and tumble friendship had blossomed into something more... like puppy love?
"Look, mother!" Terry insisted.
Still holding the platter, Terry's mother looked around-and dropped the platter. Quick as a cat, Terry lunged and caught the platter before it hit the floor.
"And you wouldn't ever let me dry this because you were afraid I'd drop it!" cried Terry gleefully!
"Joe...gave you...that?" she said, weakly.
"Yes," laughed Terry, carefully laying the platter on the table. "Isn't it a beauty?"
Terry gingerly touched her swollen, plum-colored right eye with a fingertip. "Boy! she said, "it's still swelling! I'll bet it's a lot darker now, too. I'm going to look at it in the mirror, mother!" Terry bounced toward the door.
"Wait!" her mother cried. "How...did it happen?"
Terry paused at the door. "Joe punched me mother! to teach me a lesson!"
"What lesson?" Terry's mother cried indignantly.
"To always keep my left up? We were boxing in Joe's basement, mother! With boxing gloves, so that we wouldn't burt each other!"

Terry skipped out the door. A moment later her head popped back in again. "Mother! How long does a black eye last?"
"About a week, or so," said Terry's mother.
"Is that all?" cried Terry, disappointment written all over her face.
Then she brightened a little. "Mother may I buy some film for ous camera? Color film? I've got to have some pictures taken of this eye while it's still a beauty."
"All right," she said, "you might as well have a record of it because there won't be any more eyes like that-!"
"You bet there won't, mother!" laughted Terry. "I really learned my lesson! From now on I'll always keep my left up-"'
"No...I wouldn't depend on that," said Terry's mother. You seem to like having a black eye too much! From now on there'll be no more boxing in Joe's basement. Even with boxing gloves ...so that you can't hurt each other."










