

# THIRIEEN. 

 "Going on Eighteen"
## VAL, GIVE ME JUST ONE GOOD REASON WHY YOU WON'T GO STEADY WITH ME ?




## ...TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT... IT MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD AN ENCHANTED PLACE/

I-I SEEM TO HEAR HEAVENLY MUSIC IN THE AIR AROLIND ME...


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## BILLY, DA-A-ARLING. DO YOU NEED ANY HELP TYING YOUR SHOELACES?



## B-BILLY! STOP!



## - YOU'RE USUALLY THE ONE THAT

 POUNCES ON ME-






$\mathrm{OH}-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{H}$, THAT. THIS SHOLLD HAPPEN TO ONE SO YOUNG So VIBRANT - SO BYANTIFUL!




- MERELY BECAUSE THE LAST TIME
MER HEART WAS BROKEN I LAUGHED
MYSELF SICK...






## EVIE! IM SO SORRY! I COULDN'T HELP IT!








## TOMBOY <br> TERRY

Terry, head turned, stared after the boy as he walked briskly across the dock and up the path that led away from the lake, a long fishing pole waving up and down on his shoulder. Finally she turned to her friend, Joe, who sat beside her on the end of the dock, eyes glued to the two fishing floats that bobbed gently in the water a few feet below.
"What's got into Herbie all of a sudden?" cried Terry. "I've never before known him to quit fishing in the middle of the day! And he wouldn't say why!"
"Watch your float, Terry," said Joe, without looking up. But Terry was still wondering about Herbie.
"Herbie is crazier about fishing than anybody I know," she mused. "He must have a simply fantastic reason for going off like this, especially when the fish are just starting to bite! Joe, do you have any idea what the reason might be?"
"Yes," muttered Joe, still watching the floats.
"What, Joe?" cried Terry.
"Has a date-Look, Terry, I think you got a nibble!" cried Joe.

Terry ignored the nibble.
"Herbie... has a date, Joe?" cried Terry. "With a ...girl?"
"With his steady-Hey! you got a big nibble, Terry!" yelled Joe.

Terry ignored the big nibble.
"Herbie is going steady?" she cried. "I thought he was too sensi-ble-"

But Joe wasn't listening.
"Your float! Your float, Terry! It went under!" he yelled.

Then he suddenly threw his pole
to one side and snatched Terry's out of her hand.

Joe gave the pole a terrific yank and fell over backwards on the dock, followed closely by the line, float, sinker and a shower of water, all of which landed on top of him.

Joe sat up and looked at the tangled line.
"Lost the hook," he mumbled sheepishly.

Terry tried never to laugh when Joe was embarrassed, but this time it was really hard not to. So she turned quickly away and stared down at the water.

Suddenly she pounced on the pole Joe had put down, to grab hers, gave it a yank, and a moment later a fat yellow perch plopped into Joe's lap!

Joe laughed so long and so loud that Terry said she was sure he had frightened all the fish to the far end of the lake.

After they settled down to fishing again, Terry glanced fondly at Joe and thought how much she liked being with him. And how nice Joe was to let her pal around with him morning, noon and night, day after day.

Then Terry remembered Herbie, and a frightening thought struck her.
"Joe..." she stammered. "You... wouldn't ever go steady...like Herbie ...would you?"
"Me?" said Joe, without taking his eyes off his float. "Me go steady with a girl? I'm not that dumb, Terry!"

Terry felt very happy again. Of course, she should have known that Joe wouldn't ever be dumb enough to go steady with a girl.







