

some instinct that prompted me, I slipped down on my kness. Then the great organ pealed forth, the strains rising and swelling as the piece proceeded. My head sank on the back of the pew in front of me and heavy sobs shook my body. Somehow every sob let out some of that awful longing that had been stifling me for days, and a great peace entered my soul.

"When the solemn midnight Mass had begun I found myself praying fervently. What I said I don't know, but God knew and understood. I knelt there spellbound and oh, so happy, for a long time. At the Elevation, when every one's else head was reverently bowed, I gazed at the altar, for there, dear girls, I saw a vision. Yes, right there on the altar Our Lord appeared to me, standing tall and radiant above the tabernacle, and a voice I shall never forget said: 'Suffer the little children to come unto Me.' With a long drawn-out sob I bowed my head and wept for pure joy. I knew then what longing had been weighing me down.

"So I knelt there until the gentleman next to me rose, and looking up I saw the devout going up to the communion rail. The man was waiting for me to let him by. As he passed me I glanced into his face. It was the face of my eldest brother, Will. But what a changed Will—his eyes were like mist and fire, and filled with heavenly peace. How I wished that I, too, might go with him, on that Christmas night, to the holy table of the Lord. When the Mass was over and only the organ softly sent up its hymn of praise, Will rose to leave. I laid my hand on his arm. He glanced down and for a moment looked unknowingly into my eyes.

"With tears trembling on my eyelashes and running down my cheeks I told him that my conscience was at rest and how happy I was. He uttered a fervent. 'Thank God!' and while we walked home through the snow he told me how he had studied the Catholic religion for a year, how he had been baptized the day before, and how he had received Our Lord for the first time that night. Then he said, 'And, oh, how I wished that you would study, too, Aileen, and the last few days when you felt so queer I hoped that you were beginning to doubt whether you were living the right kind of a life. So I took