#### The Choice Of A Cross

ation to generation, has made hap. small to her. piness the people's constant guest.

She was an only child, first pet. claimed in pity: ted and waited upon by doting parents, then by a devoted husband. She loved her husband and her appointed wife, a brave, devoted "May devotions," Ann answered. She had expected a second tirade ted and waited upon by doting parhouse and five riotous boys and danger. girls. The best of her had gone with him.

Slowly the woman looked for ers."

What will they do next?" the before she, too, stole away.

Bose was often very quiet after

the unwonted household duties ex. to the floor. hausted her; the children's buoycould bear, her life intolerable; in for she loves Me." mercy, He must lighten it or take it from her. And when the bitter feet and said: tears choked her, someone spoke:

You cannot live without a cross, no man or woman does, but if you cannot bear the one I have given to carry it. you, you may take another. See there are many here — choose that breathed:

voice was sweeter than music of it ceased, the peace re-

this; yet she was not afraid, for they no longer fled from her. She all," Ann beamed, "they'll give the in the left aisle of the church. meekness was about Him like a found time to play with them, and flowers to Our Lady. Just be The next day found her in the garment and the love of all the they, the willing little children, did patient and wait. You'll see!" mothers of the worldseemed centred all they could to help her in her in the low voice work. The home that had been child's father came home from the timidly she looked about her. Then with its melody:

and choose your own.'

could she turn from the beauty of hold tasks, now a labour of love, jerked off his glasses and threw the Stations, either, and her face His face. She looked about her and she looked for her cross, and it was them on the table. and the Lord of the crosses; and mote mountains, where people are stared back at him in wide-eyed had left there the day before, and so compelling was the beauty of that face, that once had been that their happiness has passed that face, that once had been that face, that once had been that their happiness has passed that their happiness has passed that face, that once had been that their happiness has passed the transfer the transfer that their happiness has passed that their happiness has passed the transfer the transfer that the transfer the transfer that the transfer the transfer that the transfer th struck and bruised by His brothers, into a proverb. Strangers wonder father," she faltered. "I didn't and how lovely the crown she wore, that the woman turned again to at it because they have not heard know it would make you mad." gaze into those eyes of infinite love and pity; and whether He spoke these simple people of the hills; "I'm not blaming you, my dear," studded with rubles and pears and even turquoise—the color of which matched the blue of her mantle! or only looked upon her, she did the story that has shown them the he answered more gently, "but Ann "Why did father so not know, but this she understood, only road to peace on earth, the should have known better." that every cross there belonged to royal highway of unselfish love, Then it was that Anne came the child began to ask herself. someone who served Him, but had the way of the cross. been born first by Him, and thus had He made the cross the pledge of love as well as the badge of

Again the silence changed to music when he said:

"Choose, daughter.

And very quickly she chose

anyone but only Me; and she lies the faithful old house-keeper who seave my house at once for your ward, and she knows that she will mother died, enter the room. This tale is told in a peaceful never rise from it. She is only place, hidden among the hills of sixteen and loves life; but she loves people going into that church across "Very well, six." Italy; and its telling, from gener. Me more, and so her cross seems the street when it isn't even Sun-

Once, one of them rebelled at her turned to find another cross, and going for? hard lot, and she was allowed to reached this time for one of larger Ann looked down at the child money and your ambition that you choose her cross, and this is how it size; but it burned her fingers and with a smile in her kind old eyes, have let come between you and she could not touch it and she ex- "Tis the month of Our Lady, your old-time Catholic faith-even

"Lord, who can bear that?" pretty home and had no greater care mother. She thought her husband "Presently you will hear the bell from this, but paling and too surthan to watch their babies grow in one of the best men in the world; ring; then the playing of the organ, prised to answer, he could only to bright, beautiful children, no she knows now that he is one of and the children'll be singing a stare back at her. heavier task than to gather flowers the worst and that he hates her; hymn to Our Lady. After that Very quietly the door opened from their garden, the fruit from but for their daughters' sake she you'll maybe hear low murmuring and Ann went out, while Rose, who their orchard. Then, suddenly, all lives with him, hiding his shame of voices, if the breeze happens to had listened to these strange things was changed. Her strong young and evil from them, keeping their bring the sound this way; it'll be she had said to her father, began husband sickened and died and lives innocent and happy, though the Rosary they'll be saying, that's to watch him very closely now.

She felt it all unjust and she all brilliant and beautiful with child asked. fought with fate, and failed. Grief precious stones, but it was so heavy Then they'll sing another hymn," dearly and missed her motherly deand care submerged her like a sea; she could not hold it and let it fall Ann smiled, "and May-devotions votion. Her greatest pleasure now

their happy noise, and they grew and honours, has title and lands, little silence. to fear her hard sorrow and health beauty and friends, but no "Yes," she answered, "every time shunned her. At last she did what children in her house, only their I can get away for a little while, procession came Rose tried very she had not done before; she little graves out yonder under the I go. prayed. Upon her knees, her hands sky; her heart is breaking for "The next time you go, Ann, ing the children as they treaded covering her face, she cried to God want of them. The world calls would you take me with you?" that her cross was more than she her happy, and so indeed she is, Ann did not answer at once, but The altar boys came first, led by

with me still. Give me back my And maybe if you're real good I'll first Communion; and all of them own cross and teach me the way take you to the May procession." had flowers.

Sweeter than ever was the voice When will they have that?"

"The only way is love."

sweetest music, and it stilled the cross and tenderly He blessed her, where you can see everything and sounded. She did not know that woman's rebellious heart, as the and she went her way. But her hear the children sing; they'll be the sounding of the gong meant calm that comes after a storm cross was no longer the same; it marching up the aisle then, the that they were having Benediction; quiets the wild tumult of winds was lighter, and every day it grew altar boys first, and the little girls Ann had not told her about that and waves. All harmony was in that wondrous voice thrilling with strove to learn better the lesson of be one of them that won't have her the children had left the church power and pity, and when the unselfish love. For, she, too, was flowers. changed. She was now slow to The child's eyes were wide and had missed the May procession she anger, where before in her blind bright. The woman looked at Him who grief, she had been harsh and in- What will they do with the dral the next day and see this lospoke, and she forgot her prayer.

Never had she seen a man like and sharp with the children, and "That'll be the loveliest part of the altar that Ann had said was once more makes silence golden made silent and gloomy by bitter, office that night when she began up the aisle she went, pausing now rebellions mourning, was now full to tell him about the wonderful and then to gaze back at some "Look at the crosses on the wall of fresh, young laughter, warm event that Ann had promised to sweet-faced saint who seemed to and bright with heart's sunshine. take her to. But there was no cor-Then only, because He bade her. One day as she sang at her house-responding smile in his face as he glass windows. She did not miss

#### In the Month of May

BY ELEANOR LLOYD IN ROSARY MAGAZINE

The sun shone down with golden "Why, sir, the child could not be over in her mind. radiance on the two white spires of in better company," she answered the smallest one she could find; but Saint John's Cathedral that after-calmly, do what she might, she could not; noon in early May, while a child "What?" He began to glare at that lovely Lady? move it, so tremendous was its stood at the window of her home her from across the library table. He did not frown or look imeagerly at the troop of little boys and two red spots burned in her to go on.

on a bed-of pain, in a hospital had come to také charge after her interference-do you hear! And

day? Every afternoon this week in Ann's voice as she added: small to her. day? Every afternoon this week in Ann's youce as she added:

Silent and abashed, the widow they've gone there. What are they "But 'tis not your real self that's

she was left alone to look after her all the while her own life is in like a wreath of roses they ll offer But the questions that rose to her her-only their flowers'll be pray- lips died away, and it was not long

ancy jarred upon her, and she hated for love of Me. She has riches votions?" the child asked, after a May devotions came to watch the

when she did there was a hipt of a young priest, and after them the

"Forgive me, Lord and be patient you, if you wanted to go with me? they were the day they made their "Oh, Ann!" the child beained. After a long time the music and

o'clock. Then you'll see a grand Rosary, died away, and somewhere Gently He gave her back her sight! I'll take you in my pew, in the church a sweet-toned gong

manded, "about your taking Rose she looked at him a long time be- AUTO ACCESSORIES, OILS and GASOLINE. over to that church to a May pro- fore she ventured to ask the ques-

tomorrow come down to my office

There was a good deal of dignity

sending me away, sir; 'tis your my pet, and they're going there to robbing your own flesh and blood of her holy religion, because it

Ann went away, for she loved her to the floor.

"A woman wears that as a jewel "Ann, do you ever go to May decach afternoou when the hour for people as they went into the church.

When the Sunday of the May hard to satisfy herself with watchtheir way into the big white church.

Then the woman fell at his His defiance in her small bright eyes. little girls. Some of them were "Now, why wouldn't I be taking wearing the veils and wreaths that

> the low murmuring of voices, that "Next Sunday afternoon at 5 she had learned from Ann was the she told herself that although she could at least go over to the Cathe-

> > church. She had never been in a

"Nonsense!" he jeered. "What grew soler as she looked at them.

But before C.

for telling me about this Lady?

regarded her, looked a little startled. That night when she and her "What is this I hear," he de-father, were again in the library / cession next Sunday afternoon?" tions that she had been turning

> "Father, what made you send Ann away for telling me about

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DRUGGIST The Revall store STATIONER

### Let us figure on that New Building!

Our Stock of NAILS and HARDWARE is comthings save the crosses on the wall. This is the tale they tell in that can the woman be thinking of." her eyes lit up, for it was beautiful plete and we can give you figures that will and with no one in it save herself peaceful place high among the re-

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We carry a large assortment of AUTO TIRES back into the room again, and see. "And why did he not want Ann in the following makes: DUNLOP, GOODYEAR, ing the scowl with which the man to take me to the May procession?" MALTESE CROSS, and the famous hand made "BRIAR CLIFF" tires.

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# weight. In amazement she asked across the street and began to gaze. Her spirit came to the surface, patient, and it gave her courage Advertise in the St. Peters Bote.

Who, my Lord, who carries and girls that ran up the stone this?"

"A weak young girl. She has neither father nor mother nor has neither father nor mother nor has neither father nor mother and local points."

"And why wouldn't you let Ann take me to the May procession?"

"And why wouldn't you let Ann take me to the May procession?"

The next moment she had climbed up in his lap and her two small arms were about his shoulders. Although she smiled a little, window to see Ann McGinley, "That will do?" he thundered."

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A.J. RIES, ST. GREGOR.

there was a in her smile more though for a little gi "Father. d

Vol. 16

keeper. Sene There was voice, and s drive back th Very tend her when sh night, but

her questions what he wou window after room, his ey white church had passed a away into ye become too e his goal to

Out of th ambition fo career for I laid were th for her futu faith as we also the sac if one would ings. So h iealous care any knowle

No wond rid the hous old houseke ards he had the place o faith began And there

> the church, them to the He read no her lovely would she asked himse he had done Suddenly in which h moving over

mahogany began to w It was A postman at

dressed to l

"Come b Rose miss needs you "And gla that day.

bring him Tears fill the note ar apron pock "Sure, 't

Bowman t my darling It was late stroke Bowman Rose was he started every nov and cheek

"Father evening c the Ange we did th "Yes," ] day morr going."

"And for Sund "Surely And th over the

the stree came int

thou art what the