

One of Life's Sordid Tragedies

—and how the mere reading of a magazine story brought two broken lives peace and happiness

In a little mid-western town, one evening a very few years ago, a young girl waited in the moon-flecked shadow of the wistaria-shaded porch. Soon he came—the one man in all the world—and into her ear that night he whispered the sweetest story ever told, and asked a question to which she shyly murmured "yes."

Their cup of happiness was full. In a few months they married. In time there came to bless their home a baby boy. And then came—tragedy.

She learned that the man in whom she had put her faith was faithless, had made a mockery of the marriage vows.

In her hurt and resentment, hoping to hurt him as he had hurt her, hating herself every minute of that nightmare period of her life, she was as untrue to him as he had been to her.

In time the sordid story became known as such stories always do, the husband in "righteous" indignation at her faithlessness, applied for and received a divorce decree, the home was broken up, they went their separate ways.

All that remained of that once happy marriage was the little baby boy and memories, bitter-sweet.

Later he read a story of a girl and man whose wedded experience had been similar to his own except that in the end the couple in the story saw the light, gathered together the pieces of their broken romance, remarried and in the end achieved a degree of happiness that neither would have believed possible.

It set him to thinking—made him see himself as he really was—helped him to better understand the girl who had been his wife to the end that today they are again husband and wife, their home is re-established, the baby boy is again surrounded with the home and parental influences God intended he should have, another baby boy has come to join them, and they are happy in a mutual understanding, although the shadow of the past can never entirely fade.

The magazine in which he read the story that inspired them to right, so far as it could be righted, the wrong that they had done, was True Story Magazine.

The facts upon which the above account is based came to True Story Magazine in a letter of sincerest gratitude from the woman whose happiness it helped restore. Her letter, just as it came to us, is printed in the panel at the left.

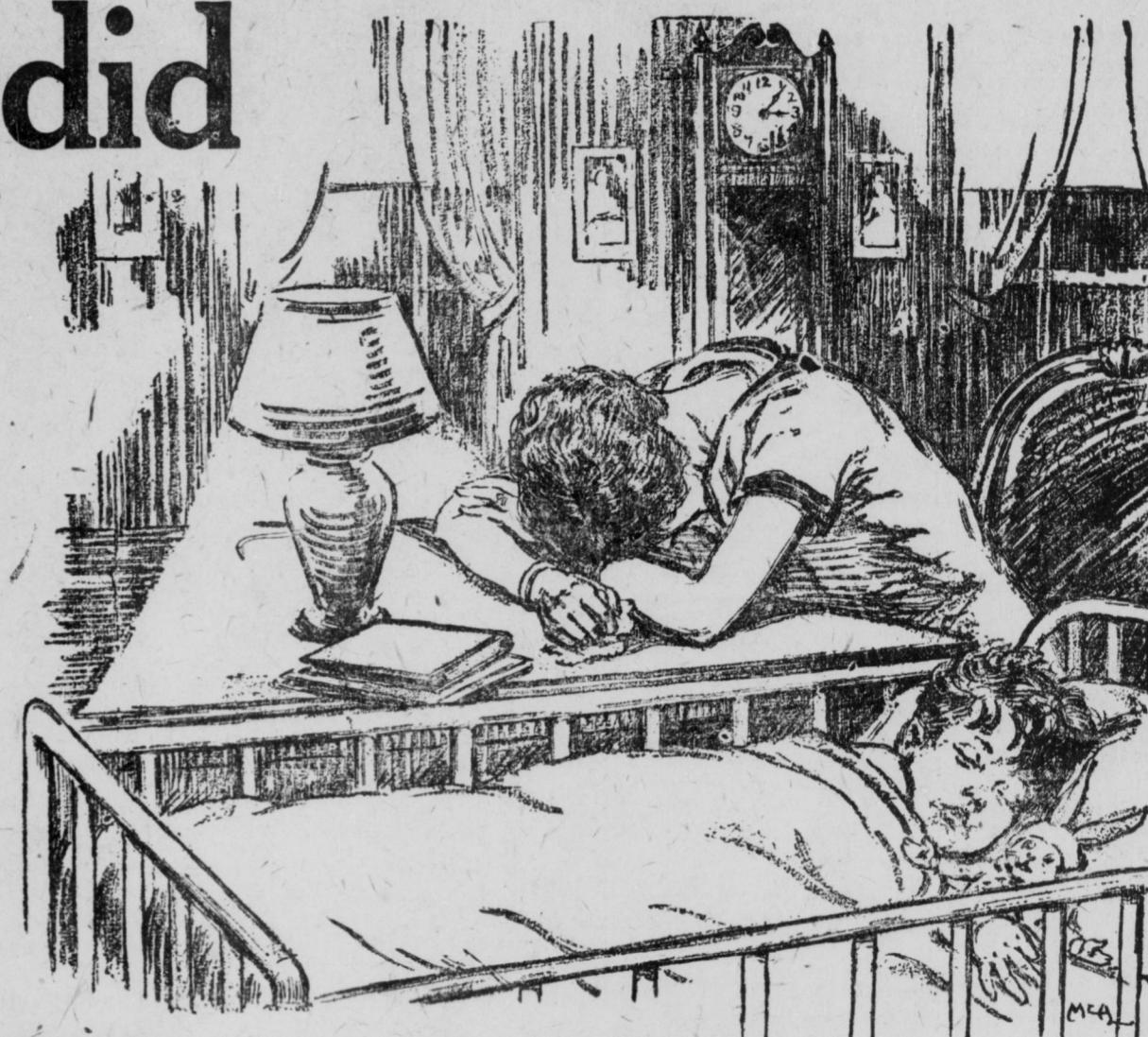
The mission of True Story is to help humanity. It does not give advice nor does it preach. It teaches by the oldest and most effective method in the world—example.

Every issue of True Story consists of from fifteen to twenty powerfully enlightening true stories in which the reader sees life as it is actually lived in all its stark tragedy and in all its glory.

Each has the same power to help its readers that the story had which resulted in the reconstruction of the home described at the left.

Every Story Contains a Moral That Is Unconsciously Absorbed

Above at the right are brief analyses of three stories picked at random from the November issue now on sale.



"I discovered that my husband was not true to me, and to make matters worse I decided to get even."

Seven Thousand Grateful Readers Thank True Story

The extent to which True Story has succeeded in its great work is almost beyond belief. In its files are over seven thousand letters, each written by a man or woman for whom True Story has been a light in the darkness, either by pointing out the evils and the pitfalls of life before terrible mistakes were made or to whom it showed that even after the most grievous errors have been committed happiness and self-respect can be regained by courage, repentance and devotion, although the way is long and hard.

Two of the more representative of these letters are printed below.

True Story Saved This Home

As I look across the room and see how comfortable my husband and children look I can truthfully write that True Story has indeed helped to make our home life happier.

I shudder to think what our lives might have been if we had not read True Story.

Five years ago I discovered my husband was not true to me and to make matters worse I decided to get even.

I wonder if there is another woman that ever sinned for spite and hated herself all along for it. But I found that men could do things and get away with them that women cannot. So we separated. I tried to explain things to him but of course, he could not see things as I did. He got a divorce, but I kept our two-year-old son.

One day the married sister with whom my former husband stayed was reading a True Story Magazine and found a story similar to our trouble. She took the book to him and although he never read magazines much, she coaxed him to read that one story.

In less than three weeks after he read that True Story we were married again. He said that story made him understand more than I ever could.

We have another little boy now over a year old. My husband is a changed man. I have not deserved the happiness I now have, and although I cannot bring back the past I can and will make the future happy for my loved ones.

MARGARET M. SIGLE,
Carl Junction, Mo.

Straight from a Mother's Heart

Two years of University life for my young sons seemed to overshadow all home influences. Drinking parties, "petting parties" had become quite the smart thing. I was waiting—praying for some new influence upon their lives when one day in vacation I saw the elder son, just twenty, hand an open magazine to his brother.

"Read that," he said.

Glancing at the magazine I saw it was True Story.

That night my boys came home earlier than usual and I heard them talking in their room.

"Did you read that story?"

"Yes, it made me think of Tom."

"It made me think of many things. Just like that story—just as Mother says—a few drinks and a whole life ruined. There he was, a college boy, married to a girl he didn't love, all because of drinking and a fool "petting party." Then when he was older he found the girl he wanted—too late. Just as Tom will some day. I tell you that story opened my eyes and I've decided to cut out all drinking and petting—even smoking. I'm going in for health and clean living, and I want you to join me."

"I'm with you," answered the younger boy. "It is dangerous, and it keeps Mother unhappy. I can see that even when she says nothing."

A little later the older boy opened the half-closed door between our rooms.

"Asleep, Mother?" he asked.

"Come in, boys," I answered.

They came and kneeling there at my bedside, they told me of their resolution. Still kneeling, they said their prayers as in their old boyhood days. Then kissing me tenderly, reverently, they went out. That simple story of real life was the influence I had been praying for. In sincere gratitude I commend True Story Magazine.

Mrs. _____

(This woman prefers not to have her name published.)

"Cheaters" is the sad story, told in her own words, of a young wife who was not content with the simple duties and pleasures of homemaking, and who saw no harm in going about with a chance woman acquaintance who promised to show her "a little of life." Little did she dream of the terrible situation into which her foolish, restless discontent was to lead her—and which was to teach her a lesson she can never forget. A powerful, thought-compelling, true-life narrative that every girl and woman should read.

"Mad Love" is the account of a girl who, misled by the false glamour of a "movie" career, started out to conquer fame with beauty and ambition as her sole capital. And when at last she stood face to face with defeat, she might have profited by her lesson, if she had not listened to the promises of fame which a popular screen idol poured into her ears. Here is a true story of disillusionment and suffering that will excite your pity, yet contains a warning that no girl can fail to heed.

"Never Again" is the touching heart-story of a schoolgirl who imagined that her future happiness was assured because she was engaged to the cleverest, handsomest, most popular young man on the college campus. Had she been warned in time, she might have foreseen the terrible train of events which was to turn her world of happiness into a black vale of despair. A true-life chronicle that will tug at your heartstrings as only a story of real life can do.

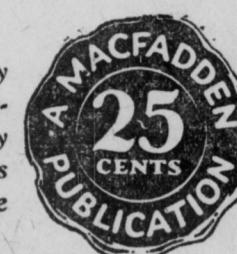
So it is with every story in True Story. No matter which you read, each contains a moral that is all the more powerful because it is not pointed out nor harped upon. Each is a signboard on the road of life pointing always to the right. Young folks follow them instinctively.

A New and Delightful Experience

Only by reading one or more copies of True Story can you be made to realize the extent of its power to instruct and entertain. The November issue is now on sale. Why not get a copy today and experience for yourself the charm that draws nearly two and one-half millions of people to the newsstands every month to buy it!

On sale wherever magazines are sold.

Don't be fooled by imitations! All MacFadden True Story Magazines have this seal in RED on the cover



Three Thousand Ministers Acclaim True Story

Nobody knows better than the minister of the gospel the magic power of "example" to illustrate the spoken or written word, to make it live and take on a personal meaning so that the hearer or reader goes forth with the message of decency and right living, love and faith and charity deeply impressed upon receptive mind and heart.

And because each issue of True Story is a collection of great sermons so powerfully driven home by living examples that they can never be forgotten, ministers from every part of the country have flocked to its banners. Below we are printing a few of over three thousand letters of appreciation of True Story from ministers, that the editors have received during the last few months. Upon request we will be glad to mail to any address a brochure containing nearly fifteen hundred of them. To publish them all would require a book too bulky for practical purposes.

Jesus Christ, that Prince of Teachers, said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Free, free, to be all that God planned for you and me. And we can be free in the best sense of that term only in so far as we KNOW and ACT upon the TRUTH.

To Hunger and to Thirst after RIGHTEOUSNESS is a God-given something. And are they not working, building, with God, who help their fellows to Think and to GO right?

I have heard everything above the sod and the dew criticized, and a few things beneath. And he who would avoid criticism should Say Nothing, Do Nothing and BE NOTHING! Go on in your good work, remembering, that in the Final Findings, "Only the Master shall blame."

One particular article in the May number of True Story is worth the price of a life subscription many times over.

Yours for the Truth,
(REV.) S. O. REDACRE,
Mishawaka, Indiana.

I like your plan and policy. How hard it is to get across the unadulterated TRUTH in printed page.

Some of your stories may be "shocking" but so are some of the Biblical narratives. Sin is or should be always repulsive or made so to the growing, choosing life. Go on, speak plain, tell the facts and shame the devil, if it were possible.

I believe you will have the worthwhile citizenship back of you.

With best wishes and a willing testimony, I am your brother in the same work.

(REV.) CONDE A. HILE,
Middletown, Indiana.

In these days of many magazines, not a few of them more harmful than helpful, it is a great relief to know that there is one magazine that can be unreservedly recommended without apology or hesitation. No matter how vivid an author's imagination may be, and how high his moral point of view, his writings cannot have the same force to carry the same weight of influence as stories taken from real life; the latter are the actual experiences of life and such experiences are what give the greatest assistance to our fellow men. It is therefore a pleasure to say a good word for the True Story Magazine. It holds a unique place in the magazine world, and I heartily wish it all prosperity.

Sincerely yours,
(REV.) WILLIAM J. CORDICK,
Plymouth, Indiana.

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(If you prefer to examine the magazine before subscribing simply mail us 25 cents and we will send you one copy of the November issue at once.)

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