

KRISTY'S QUEER CHRISTMAS

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Kristy's queer Christmas by Olive Thorne Miller

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OLIVE THORNE MILLER

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CHRISTMAS**



Page 34

THE TREE WAS TO THEM LIKE A GLIMPSE OF FAIRYLAND



KRISTY'S
QUEER
CHRISTMAS

BY
OLIVE THORNE MILLER

ILLUSTRATED



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KRISTY'S QUEER CHRISTMAS

CHAPTER I

HOW IT HAPPENED

THE way Kristy came to have a queer Christmas at all, was this: she had been very ill at her grandmother's, and though she tried her best, and the good doctor tried his best, she could not get well enough to go home for Christmas.

This was a great grief, of course, for all the girls were having fine times in town, Christmas trees and all sorts of festive doings, and Kristy thought so much about it all and felt so bad about it that the doctor began to shake his head again.

So Mamma told Kristy that she might plan anything she liked, to celebrate the day, and if it were possible, she should have her way.

This was a capital idea of Mamma's, for it

gave Kristy something to think of for several days before she hit upon just such a programme as she should like best. Christmas trees she was tired of, and besides, a tree would be stupid where she was the only young person. At last a happy thought came to her, which almost made her dance with delight. She would have a party, a new kind of a party, and give everybody a surprise. How her guests would like it she did not know, but that she should enjoy it she was sure.

She told Mamma her plan, first making her promise to keep it secret, at least the surprise part of it, and Mamma approved.

It was to be in Grandma's big, old-fashioned kitchen, with its shining oak ceiling and polished floor. The stove that was used for cooking in these days was to be taken away; the great fireplace nearly across the whole end of the room was to be uncovered. The tall brass "fire-dogs" with their queer heads were to be put in place, and a royal fire of logs built up. There was to be no other light in the room, and here on Christmas eve her party was to