## SEVEN ON THE HIGHWAY

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Seven on the highway by Blanche Willis Howard

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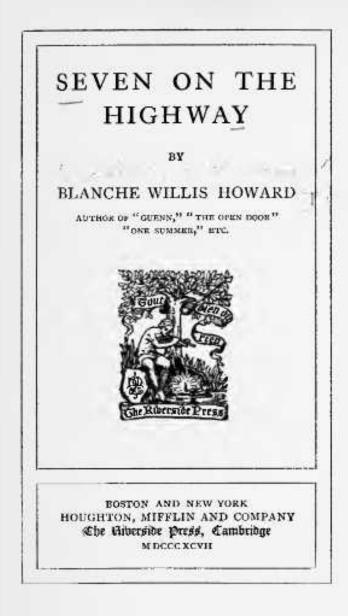
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### **BLANCHE WILLIS HOWARD**

# SEVEN ON THE HIGHWAY

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### CONTENTS

			FAGE
MARIGOLD-MICHEL	83		1
NO CONTINUING CITY	92		56
THALATTA!	t:	1	90
PUSS-IN-BOOTS			
THE YOUTH THAT NEVER SMILED .	2	i,	174
THE MAJESTY OF THE LAW	34		211
ALL SAILS SPREAD FOR MONKEYLA	ND	Ì.,	245



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#### SEVEN ON THE HIGHWAY

#### MARIGOLD-MICHEL

I

ARIGOLD-MICHEL strode down the mountain. It was S five o'clock in the morning, and the world was fresh. From his broadbrimmed rush hat wreathed with marsh marigolds, streamed long stems of oak leaves dancing and nodding like a cavalier's plumes. His face was brown, gay, and clean-shaved except for a big mustache rather yellower than his faded hat, or even the straggling ends of fair hair curling loosely on his shoulders. On his arm he carried a large basket covered with plantain leaves; strapped upon his back, a canister; thrust through his belt, a peasant's knife sheathed and a solid