

Zelda Sayre Fitzgerald: A Check List

BY HENRY DAN PIPER '39

ZELDA FITZGERALD'S writings, of course, were easily surpassed by her husband's, both in quantity and quality. Still, she possessed an authentic, though meagerly-trained, minor talent. It is a talent that still comes through to us in her remarkable synesthetic prose and in her paintings. According to her friends, it was there in her dancing, too.

But there are also other important reasons for publishing a check list of her writings at this time. She collaborated with her husband on so many stories and sketches that any listing of his work would be incomplete without some mention of those pieces she published under her own name, or of those that they published together. It is difficult to determine precisely just how much of the writing in the following items should be credited to each of them. So far as *Save Me the Waltz* is concerned, practically all of it is hers. She sent the manuscript to Scribner's before her husband had read it, and the final proof sheets show her further voluminous revisions. Most of the stories and sketches were probably hers to begin with, with Fitzgerald providing the necessary last-minute refurbishings that gave them a professional luster. In a few cases the typescripts of some of the *College Humor* and *Esquire* pieces survive. Here we can see Fitzgerald's penciled revisions smoothing up her style and shortening her involved periodic sentences. In most of the tear sheets of those sketches which were published over both their names, he has crossed out his name, thereby crediting the pieces entirely to her; and in his ledger and in various letters we can pick up other references which indicate pretty definitely that, by and large, most of the inspiration and the actual writing that went into the items listed below were Zelda's.

I. BOOK

Save Me the Waltz. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1932.

II. SHORT STORIES IN PERIODICALS

Chicago Sunday Tribune: Our Own Movie Queen, 5:1 (June 7, 1925); published under Fitzgerald's name but, according to his ledger, "two-thirds written by Zelda. Only my climax and revision."

College Humor: (All these contributions were published as though written by "Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald," but, according to Fitzgerald's ledger, they were all

written by Zelda.) *The Original Follies Girl*, 17:4:40 (July, 1929). *Southern Girl*, 18:3:27 (Oct., 1929). *The Girl the Prince Liked*, 74:46 (Feb., 1930) [numbering changes]. *The Girl with Talent*, 76:50 (Apr., 1930). *The Poor Working Girl*, 85:72 (Jan., 1931).

Saturday Evening Post: *A Millionaire's Girl*, 202:46:8 (May 17, 1930); mostly written by Zelda, but published under Fitzgerald's name; see Arthur Mizener, *The Far Side of Paradise*, 338-39.

Scribner's Magazine: *Miss Ella*, 90:661 (Dec., 1931). *A Couple of Nuts*, 92:80 (Aug., 1932).

III. ESSAYS AND SKETCHES IN PERIODICALS

College Humor: *Looking Back Eight Years*, 14:3:36 (June, 1928). *Who Can Fall in Love after Thirty?* 15:3:9 (Oct., 1928). Both "by Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald," but credited in his ledger to Zelda.

Esquire: "Show Mr. and Mrs. F. to Number —," 1:6:19 and 2:1:23 (May and June, 1934). *Auction—Model 1934*, 2:2:20 (July, 1934). Both "by Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald," but Fitzgerald wrote to his editor that most of the writing was Zelda's; see Arthur Mizener, *The Far Side of Paradise*, 338.

Harper's Bazaar: *The Changing Beauty of Park Avenue*, 62:2583:60 (Jan., 1928); "by Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald," but prose style is clearly Zelda's.

McCall's: *Does a Moment of Revolt Come Sometime to Every Married Man?* 51:4:21 (Mar., 1924); accompanied by another article on the same subject by F. Scott Fitzgerald. *What Became of Our Flappers and Sheiks? What Became of the Flapper?* 53:1:12 (Oct., 1925); accompanied by another article by F. Scott Fitzgerald, subtitled "Our Young Rich Boys."

Metropolitan Magazine: *Eulogy on the Flapper*, 55:5:38 (June, 1922).

New York Tribune: *Review of F. Scott Fitzgerald, The Beautiful and Damned*, 5:2 (Apr. 2, 1922).

New Yorker: *The Continental Angle*, 8:16:25 (June 4, 1932).

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

"Breakfast," *Favorite Recipes of Famous Women*, ed. Florence Stratton, New York, Harper & Brothers, 1925, 98; a humorous "recipe."