

Nancy Page Club— Magic Vine Quilt

Beginning of the Quilt

Nancy Page had done many clever things in her life but one outstanding achievement was the planning of beautiful quilts. Her Grandmother's Garden Quilt was the pride and joy of every member of the neighborhood club. When that one was finished the members started on the Alphabet Quilt which please each youngster who was so fortunate as to receive one. Then came the design for a third quilt. "Can't you think of something new, Nancy? We want to make another quilt and have the friendly, gossipy club meetings while we work at the different blocks. Come on, now, don't tell us you have run out of ideas."

Nancy confessed that she could not think of a single new quilt. Lois, who had left her young daughter at home, gave Nancy her fist glimmer, "Could you possibly use the idea of the bean stalk? You know the monstrous one of Jack's" Remember how quickly it grew and what wonders it enabled him to perform. My small daughter is growing just like that vine. And now Nancy was started. "I wonder whether we could not have a Magic Vine Quilt—a sort of vine that-never-was, you know. We could put all kinds of flowers on it. If it were a magic vine there is no reason why flowers of hill and dale could not spring from a common stem.

"A downy gentian, a bouncing bet, a wild rose, a morning glory and an evening primrose might be the friendliest companions in the vine family. I wonder whether you can see the picture I have in mind? Here is a snowy white quilt with four trailing vines up and down its length. And on each vine are flowers of pleasing hue, soft pastel colors that would make the quilt a fitting covering for the cherished four poster or the modern headless and footless affair called a bed.

"We could—" but Nancy got no further for all the members broke in at once. "Oh, I can see it, Nancy, I was mine to be pale green in background, bound with a deeper green." And—"Couldn't we have vine without any flowers at all for a border? That would set off the four magic fines in the center of the quilt?" And—"How soon can we start making the quilt?"

"One at a time, my dears, one at a time. Let me catch me breath first. I tell you what we can do. Meet at my house a week from today and I will have the first patterns ready."

"I think I will suggest white soft gingham of the Peter Pan variety for the body of the quilt. It will be used as the blocks, too, on which we will appliqué the flowers and vines."

"I will plan the quilt for a good sized double bed. The finished quilt will be ninety inches wide and one hundred and eight long. This will allow for good overhand on sides and bottom and will let the quilt cover up over the pillows. It can be tucked in sharply under bottom edge of pillow and then extend over the pillows reaching to the very top. This arrangement simulates the sham which used to be so popular back in the days when your great grandmothers and aunts—and mine too—were making pieced and patchwork quilts."

"Our quilt will be a series of six inch square blocks with a flower and part of vine appliquéd on each one. Then, there will be long strips to join the blocks. But all of this and more I will have for you next week when you meet at my home."

As the club dispersed they said among themselves that Nancy was a gem and a dear and marvel at planning new and attractive quilt. So say we, all of us.

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