

CLASSICS
Illustrated
JUNIOR

No. 534

25¢

The Golden Touch



WHAT IS IT?

Solve this puzzle by placing the point of your pencil or crayon on dot number 1 and drawing a line to dot number 2. Then you draw another line to dot number 3 and so on, until you have connected all the dots. After you have done this, you may use your crayons to color this surprise picture.



The Golden Touch



2
ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE LIVED A VERY RICH KING NAMED MIDAS.



HE LOVED GOLD MORE THAN ALMOST ANYTHING ELSE IN THE WORLD.



YOUR MAJESTY, SOMEONE HAS SENT YOU THIS BEAUTIFUL SILVER PITCHER.

SILVER! IF IT IS NOT MADE OF GOLD, I DON'T EVEN WANT TO LOOK AT IT!



MIDAS HAD A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE DAUGHTER NAMED MARIGOLD. SHE WAS THE ONLY THING HE LOVED MORE THAN GOLD.



COME INTO THE GARDEN, FATHER. I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.

I AM BUSY, MARIGOLD.



ALL YOU EVER THINK ABOUT IS YOUR GOLD!

OH, ALL RIGHT, MARIGOLD. I WILL GO INTO THE GARDEN WITH YOU.



SEE, OUR NEW ROSE BUSH HAS GOLDEN ROSES.

AH, MY CHILD, IF ONLY THOSE FLOWERS WERE REAL GOLD, THEY WOULD BE WORTH LOOKING AT!



MIDAS SOON LEFT THE GARDEN AND WENT TO HIS TREASURE ROOM.



FOR HOURS HE SAT THERE COUNTING AND RECOUNTING HIS GOLD.



THEN . . .

THIS GOLD IS ALL RIGHT, BUT THERE JUST ISN'T ENOUGH OF IT. I WISH THAT EVERYTHING I HAD IN THE WORLD WAS GOLD--EVERYTHING!



AS HE SPOKE A SHADOW FELL ACROSS HIM.





THE GOLDEN TOUCH!
ARE YOU SURE YOU
WOULD REALLY
LIKE THAT?



OH,
YES!

WE
SHALL
SEE.



TOMORROW AT SUNRISE
YOU WILL HAVE YOUR
WISH. EVERYTHING
YOU TOUCH WILL
TURN INTO GOLD.



THEN THE FIGURE OF THE STRANGER
GREW SO BRIGHT THAT MIDAS HAD TO
CLOSE HIS EYES.



WHEN HE OPENED THEM AGAIN

HE IS GONE! IT
MUST HAVE BEEN
MAGIC!

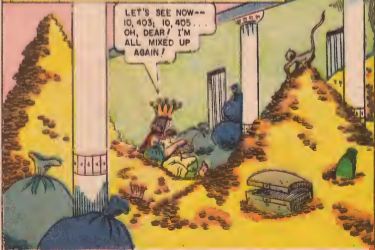


BUT IF IT REALLY WAS
MAGIC, PERHAPS HE WILL
GIVE ME THE GOLDEN
TOUCH.



MIDAS WAS SO EXCITED THAT HE COULD NOT KEEP HIS MIND
ON HIS WORK FOR THE REST OF THE DAY.

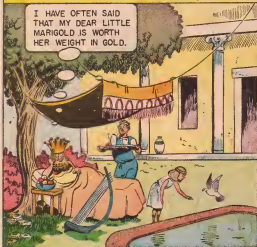
LET'S SEE NOW--
10,403; 10,405...
OH, DEAR! I'M
ALL MIXED UP
AGAIN!



EVEN AT DINNER, MIDAS COULD THINK OF NOTHING BUT THE STRANGER'S PROMISE.

I HAVE OFTEN SAID THAT MY DEAR LITTLE MARIGOLD IS WORTH HER WEIGHT IN GOLD.

IF THE STRANGER KEEPS HIS WORD, TOMORROW I WILL GIVE MARIGOLD A GIFT OF A PIECE OF GOLD AS BIG AS SHE IS.



WHEN IT WAS TIME FOR BED, MIDAS WAS TOO EXCITED TO SLEEP.

COULD I HAVE IMAGINED IT ALL? DID THE STRANGER REALLY VISIT ME THIS MORNING?

ALL NIGHT LONG HE TOSSED AND TURNED.



BUT WHEN THE FIRST RAYS OF SUNLIGHT FELL ACROSS HIS BED, HE WAS FAST ASLEEP.



IN HIS SLEEP HE TOUCHED HIS BLANKETS, AND AS HE TOUCHED THEM, THEY TURNED TO GOLD.



THE WEIGHT OF THE GOLD BLANKETS WOKE MIDAS.

THESE BLANKETS ARE SO HEAVY I CANNOT SLEEP.



THEN

GOLD! THEY HAVE TURNED TO GOLD!




10
MIDAS LEAPED OUT OF BED AND RAN AROUND HIS ROOM.



11

THEN MIDAS RAN TO THE WINDOW.

THIS GOLD NIGHTGOWN IS VERY WARM. I MUST HAVE SOME AIR.

Midas is shown from behind, running quickly towards a window. He is wearing a yellow nightgown and a pointed yellow hat. The room has a tiled floor and a window with a lattice pattern. Motion lines around him indicate speed.

BUT WHEN HE TRIED TO OPEN IT...

OH, DEAR! THE WINDOW HAS TURNED TO GOLD.

Midas is shown from the side, pushing against a window that has turned into a solid block of gold. He has a look of shock and distress. A vase with pink flowers sits on the floor next to him. Motion lines around the window indicate the difficulty of opening it.

MIDAS SAT DOWN TO THINK ABOUT THIS, BUT AS SOON AS HE TOUCHED THE CHAIR

OH, MY! GOLD CUSHIONS ARE NOT VERY SOFT TO SIT ON!

Midas is sitting on a wooden chair with cushions that have turned into gold. He looks uncomfortable. In the background, a monkey is running away from him, holding a blue staff. The room has a tiled floor and a red curtain on the left.

2
THEN HE WENT TO HIS BOOKCASE.

HOW WONDERFUL!
A SOLID GOLD BOOK.



BUT I CAN'T SEE ANY WORDS
ON THESE GOLD PAGES. I HAD
BETTER PUT ON MY GLASSES.



BUT .

I CAN'T SEE A
THING THROUGH
THEM!



I SEE THERE ARE SOME
INCONVENIENCES TO HAVING
A GOLDEN TOUCH. BUT THEY
ARE NOTHING--NOTHING. I
AM STILL THE HAPPIEST
MAN IN THE WORLD.



THEN MIDAS PUT ON HIS CLOTHES
AND RAN DOWNSTAIRS.

A GOLD STAIRWAY!
WAIT UNTIL MY LITTLE
MARIGOLD SEES THIS!

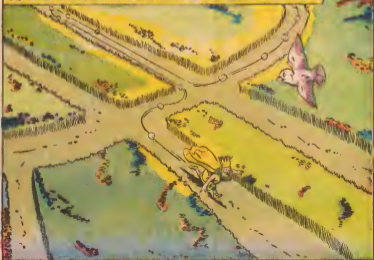


HE WENT STRAIGHT TO THE GARDEN.

NOW MARIGOLD'S GOLD
ROSES WILL REALLY
BE WORTH PICKING!



AND HE RAN HERE AND THERE, CHANGING THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.



4
WHEN HE WAS FINISHED, HE SAT DOWN TO HAVE BREAKFAST.



IMAGINE EATING FROM SOLID GOLD PLATES!

THEN

TELL MARIGOLD IT IS TIME FOR BREAKFAST.

YES, YOUR MAJESTY.



HOW ODD! I KNOW THOSE PLATES WERE NOT GOLD WHEN I PUT THEM ON THE TABLE.



A MOMENT LATER

OH, FATHER!

WHAT IS THE MATTER?



SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAS HAPPENED IN THE GARDEN.

SOMETHING TERRIBLE?



YES. I WENT TO PICK SOME NICE FRESH FLOWERS FOR YOU, BUT THEY ARE ALL SPOILED. LOOK.

THEY ARE BEAUTIFUL! WHAT ARE YOU CRYING ABOUT?



THEY ARE NOT BEAUTIFUL! THEY ARE HARD AND UGLY AND HAVE LOST THEIR SWEET SMELL.



MIDAS DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

SIT DOWN AND EAT YOUR BREAKFAST. WE WILL TALK ABOUT IT LATER.



BY THIS TIME, MIDAS WAS QUITE HUNGRY BUT WHEN HE PICKED UP HIS GLASS OF JUICE



OH, MY GOODNESS!

MARIGOLD CAME TOWARD HIM.



WHAT IS THE MATTER, FATHER?

NOTHING. GO BACK AND EAT YOUR BREAKFAST.

I MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO TOUCH MARIGOLD. SHE MAY TURN TO GOLD LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE.

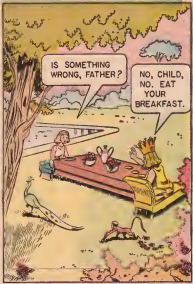


AGAIN MIDAS TRIED TO EAT BREAKFAST BUT .



IS SOMETHING WRONG, FATHER?

NO, CHILD, NO. EAT YOUR BREAKFAST.



TELL ME, FATHER. WHAT IS THE MATTER?

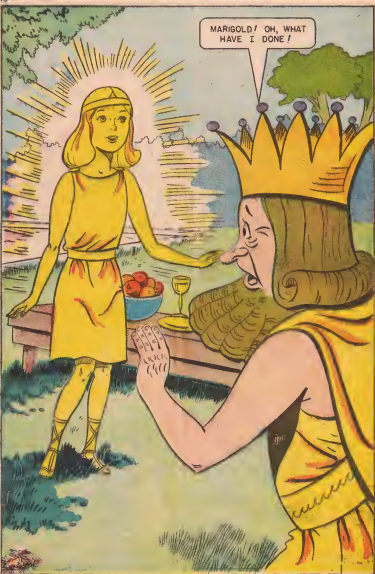


MIDAS REACHED OUT AND PATTED HIS DAUGHTER'S HAND.

AH, MARIGOLD, YOUR LOVE IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN ALL THE GOLD IN THE WORLD.



MARIGOLD! OH, WHAT
HAVE I DONE!



MIDAS CALLED FOR THE ROYAL DOCTORS.

BRING MY DAUGHTER BACK TO LIFE AND I WILL GIVE YOU ALL MY GOLD.



BUT

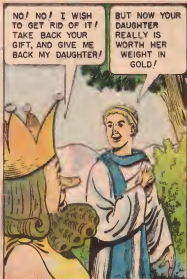
I'M SORRY, YOUR MAJESTY. THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO.



WHEN THE DOCTORS LEFT

OH, STRANGER! STRANGER!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?





MIDAS, YESTERDAY YOU SAID THAT HAVING THE GOLDEN TOUCH WOULD MAKE YOU THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD.

I WAS WRONG! GOLD IS NOT EVERYTHING.



TELL ME, WHICH DO YOU THINK IS WORTH MORE, A PIECE OF BREAD OR THE GOLDEN TOUCH?

A PIECE OF BREAD.



WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE, THE GOLDEN TOUCH OR YOUR DAUGHTER, MARIGOLD?

MY DAUGHTER IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN ALL THE GOLD IN THE WORLD.



DO YOU REALLY WISH TO BE RID OF THE GOLDEN TOUCH?

OH, YES! IT IS HATEFUL TO ME. PLEASE TAKE IT AWAY!



THE STRANGER PICKED UP A
LARGE PITCHER.

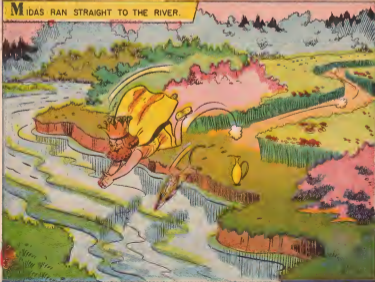
FIRST, GO AND DIVE INTO
THE RIVER THAT FLOWS
THROUGH YOUR GARDEN.



THEN FILL THIS PITCHER AND
POUR THE RIVER WATER OVER
EVERYTHING YOU HAVE
TOUCHED.



MIDAS RAN STRAIGHT TO THE RIVER.



WHEN HE CAME OUT . . .

HURRAY! MY CLOTHES
ARE NO LONGER GOLD!



THEN HE FILLED THE PITCHER.

I NEVER THOUGHT I
COULD BE SO HAPPY TO
SEE A GOLD PITCHER
TURN INTO PLAIN OLD
CROCKERY!



HE HURRIED BACK.

MARIGOLD!
MARIGOLD!
I AM COMING
TO SAVE YOU!



HE QUICKLY Poured THE WATER OVER MARIGOLD.



MARIGOLD DID NOT KNOW THAT SHE HAD BEEN A GOLD STATUE.

STOP, FATHER! WHY ARE YOU SPOILING MY NICE DRESS?



THEN

HER HAIR WILL NOT CHANGE BACK TO BROWN. IT MUST BE A SIGN TO REMIND ME OF MY FOOLISHNESS.



LATER, MIDAS SHOWED MARIGOLD HOW TO MAKE THE FLOWERS IN THEIR GARDEN FRESH AGAIN.

SEE, YOU JUST HAVE TO SPRINKLE THIS WATER ON THEM.

WHAT FUN! LET ME TRY IT!



AS MARIGOLD SPRINKLED THE FLOWERS

OH, STRANGER, I AM SO HAPPY TO HAVE MY DAUGHTER BACK. HER LOVE IS WORTH MUCH MORE THAN GOLD.

I AM HAPPY YOU HAVE FOUND THAT OUT, MIDAS. FAREWELL.



FROM THAT DAY ON, KING MIDAS NO LONGER LOVED GOLD. HE GAVE MOST OF HIS RICHES AWAY AND WITH MARIGOLD LIVED SIMPLY AND HAPPILY EVER AFTER.



THE
END

AESOP'S FABLES

STONE SOUP

ONE STORMY DAY, A TRAVELER
KNOCKED AT THE DOOR OF A CASTLE.

COULD YOU SPARE ME
A BIT OF FOOD? I AM
TERRIBLY HUNGRY.



BE OFF WITH YOU!
WE CANNOT GIVE FOOD
TO EVERY BEGGAR WHO
COMES TO THE DOOR.



WELL, IF YOU WILL NOT GIVE
ME SOMETHING TO EAT, WILL
YOU AT LEAST LET ME DRY
MY CLOTHES BY THE FIRE?



ALL RIGHT, YOU MAY
SIT BY THE FIRE,
BUT NOT ONE SCRAP
OF FOOD DO
YOU GET!



LATER, IN THE KITCHEN

DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE AN EMPTY POT YOU ARE NOT USING?

WHY?

IF YOU WOULD JUST LEND ME AN EMPTY POT, I COULD MAKE MYSELF SOME STONE SOUP.

STONE SOUP? I NEVER HEARD OF IT!



THEN YOU HAVE MISSED A RARE TREAT. I WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE SOME FOR ALL OF US, IF YOU WILL JUST LEND ME A POT.

THIS I MUST SEE!

THE SERVANT BROUGHT AN EMPTY POT.

NOW WHAT DO YOU DO?

FIRST, I MUST GET SOME WATER.



BY THIS TIME, ALL OF THE SERVANTS WERE SO CURIOUS THAT THEY FOLLOWED THE TRAVELER OUTSIDE.



DID YOU EVER HEAR OF STONE SOUP?

NO, I NEVER DID.

THEN THE TRAVELER PICKED UP A STONE.



I MUST HAVE JUST THE RIGHT KIND OF STONE FOR THE SOUP. THIS ONE WILL BE PERFECT.

THEY ALL WENT BACK INTO THE CASTLE KITCHEN.



NOW, WILL YOU BE GOOD ENOUGH TO LEND ME A SPOON?

A SPOON? WELL, IT CANNOT HURT TO LEND YOU A SPOON.

SO THE SERVANT GAVE THE TRAVELER A SPOON AND



WHEN THE WATER BEGAN TO BOIL,
THE TRAVELER TASTED THE STONE SOUP.

WELL, THIS WON'T BE
AS GOOD AS USUAL,
FOR I USUALLY PUT
IN SOME SALT.

SALT? WELL, I
DON'T MIND
GIVING YOU A
PINCH OF SALT.



THE SERVANT GAVE THE TRAVELER
NOT ONLY SALT, BUT PEPPER
AS WELL.

THAT WILL BE
BETTER. BUT IT
IS A PITY I
HAVEN'T A FEW
BEANS.

I CAN
GIVE
YOU
SOME.



HERE ARE
SOME BEANS
AND A FEW
POTATOES, TOO.



THE TRAVELER ADDED THEM
TO HIS SOUP.

NOW WOULD YOU
HAVE A CARROT
OR AN OLD BONE?

OF
COURSE.



AND THE SERVANT GAVE HIM SOME CARROTS



AT LAST THE STONE SOUP WAS READY. THE TRAVELER GAVE EVERYONE A BOWLFUL.



AND TO THINK, HE MADE IT OUT OF JUST A STONE!



MISTRESS MARY

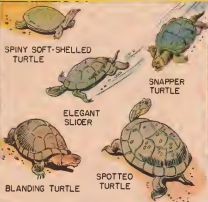
MISTRESS MARY, QUITE CONTRARY,
HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?
WITH COCKLE SHELLS AND SILVER BELLS
AND PRETTY MAIDS ALL IN A ROW.



THE ANIMAL WORLD

THE TURTLE

ABOUT 250 DIFFERENT KINDS OF TURTLES ARE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.



SOME TURTLES HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO LIVE AS LONG AS 150 YEARS.



THE LEATHER BACK TURTLE IS SEVEN TO EIGHT FEET LONG AND WEIGHS OVER 1,000 POUNDS.



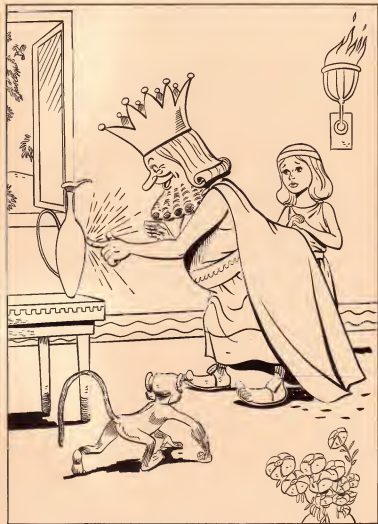
TURTLES LAY THEIR EGGS IN THE SAND. THEN THEY LEAVE THEM FOR THE HEAT OF THE SUN TO HATCH.



IF YOU HAVE A PET TURTLE, YOU CAN FEED HIM WORMS, INSECTS, LETTUCE OR BERRIES.



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