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The Land of Green Ginger

Winifred Holtby

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The Land of Green Ginger Winifred Holtby
Joanna Burton, a missionary's daughter, grows up dreaming of the far-off lands she will visit, of grand adventures to come.

At eighteen, tall and golden-haired, she meets Teddy Leigh, a young man on his way to the trenches of the First World War.

Joanna has frequently been in love before – with Hiawatha, with the Scarlet Pimpernel, with Coriolanus and Christabel Pankhurst – but this is different…

Teddy tells her he's been given the world as a golden ball to wear on a chain and she is swept away by the opportunity for another, romantic, voyage of discovery.

But the fabled shores fade into the distance when, after the war, the magic land turns out to be the harsh reality of motherhood and married life on a wild Yorkshire farm.

Winifred Holtby's witty and compassionate novel was first published in 1927, and offers a refreshing contemporary portrait of the domestic effects of the First World War.

Praise for Winifred Holtby

'Amazingly rich and complex … we meet every kind of human being. Courage and vitality blow like a high wind through her story.' **L.P. HARTLEY*, OBSERVER***

'Sarah Burton is an excellently drawn portrait - vivid, human, and without a false or inconsistent line. It is rare to find a novel with so much richness.' ***GUARDIAN***

Winifred Holtby (1898-1935) novelist, journalist and critic, was born in Rudston, Yorkshire. Her remarkable life and tragically early death are movingly portrayed by her close friend Vera Brittain in *Testament of Friendship*.

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