

The Diviners - Goldie Short (p. 29-30)

THE DIVINERS

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NORMA. Don't be so darn doubtful, Luella. So down in the mouth. Why, just look at Goldie next door. She's been spickin and spannin for days in a row just to let that man know how he's welcome.

(SHOWERS, BUDDY, and FERRIS enter:)

START
HERE

→ GOLDIE. Why you fellas're just as welcome as welcome can be.

BUDDY. Got any rootbeer here, Goldie?

GOLDIE. What kind a Diner'd I run without rootbeer?

BUDDY. Pretty lousy.

GOLDIE. (*Handing him one.*) Well it wouldn't be the Dine-Away-Cafe. Just made some fresh coffee, boys.

FERRIS. Coffee sounds fine.

GOLDIE. I'd expect you been showin our new friend around town, huh?

FERRIS. Ain't much to see.

GOLDIE. Why there's the Dry-Goods and the Diner and the view a the river. Not to mention the place where the Church was. You seen the Church ain't you?

SHOWERS. Guess it must a slipped by me.

FERRIS. Ain't nothin left but the foundation, Goldie.

GOLDIE. (*To SHOWERS.*) Well before she burned down, it was somethin I tell you. That Church had a steeple so high it put the tree tops to shame. And people? There was people all over. Those bells got to ringin and the whole town was full. Did a real good business on Sunday.

SHOWERS. You don't say?

GOLDIE. Fed more people on Sunday than the whole week together. Those Church folks're real big eaters. You want some pie with that coffee.

SHOWERS. No thanks, Ma'am. I'm fine.

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THE DIVINERS

GOLDIE. Apple pie, peach pie, rhubarb and cherry – whatever you wants on the house.

FERRIS. Well I'd like a donut.

GOLDIE. Plain donut's a penny, Ferris. Glazed're two cents.

FERRIS. Plain, thank you.

BUDDY. How bout you get him a rootbeer?

GOLDIE. (*A little surprised.*) You're not done with that last one?

BUDDY. Ain't no more down in it.

GOLDIE. You're gonna throw off your whole constitution, you know that? You drink and drink and drink and drink – you will make yourself irregular. (*She hands him a rootbeer.*)

BUDDY. You regular, Dad?

FERRIS. Hell I'm fine.

END
HERE

→ GOLDIE. (*Crossing off to get a donut.*) No cussin.

SHOWERS. That Goldie's quite a woman.

FERRIS. Well she's pretty but she's pushy.

SHOWERS. I noticed.

FERRIS. Ain't nothin worse'n a damn woman gets pushy.

GOLDIE. (*Entering with a donut.*) You're gonna cuss you can eat this outside, Ferris.

FERRIS. It's a awful good lookin donut.

GOLDIE. Don't you dare bite that donut.

FERRIS. I'm gonna pay you.

GOLDIE. You know the rules just as well as I do "No drinkin –"

FERRIS AND GOLDIE. "No Cussin" and "You Pray Before You Eat –"

FERRIS. (*To SHOWERS.*) Keeps em posted right there on the sign.

GOLDIE. Care to pray?