LITTLE STORIES FOR LITTLE PEOPLE

The Little Poinsettia

By AUNT JULIA



APPY DAYS are coming.

Happy days are coming." The little maya sang.

The little poinsettia heard the maya. The little poinsettia looked up.

"What does the maya mean?" she asked her big sister.

The big poinsettia was smiling. She was happy. She was so happy that she became red.

"Christmas is coming," she answered. She smiled again and she became redder.

"We must greet Christmas with our red blossoms," said the big poinsettia.

"You are growing red, Sister," the

little poinsettia said. "How can I make my leaves red?"

"Ask the cool wind to help you. Ask the warm sun to help you."

The big sun was just coming up. It was bright and warm.

"Big sun, bright sun, please help me," the little poinsettia begged.

"Yes, little poinsettia, I know what you want. Christmas is coming. You must turn your green leaves to red," the great big sun said.

"Thank you, big sun," the little poinsettia smiled.

"But I cannot do everything," the sun said. "You must smile. You must keep on smiling. Then ask the wind to



help you."

The little poinsettia looked around. She felt the wind coming. The wind was gentle. The wind was cool.

"Wind, wind, please help me."

"Yes," little poinsettia, "I know what you want. I shall help you. We shall make your leaves red. My cool breath will make them red."

The little poinsettia smiled.

"But I cannot do everything," the wind said. "You must smile and keep on smiling."

The big sun came to help the little poinsettia. It was not hot. It was warm. It was just warm enough for the little poinsettia. The little poinsettia was happy. She smiled sweetly. She blushed as she smiled.

The gentle wind came. Its breath was soft and cool. The little poinsettia liked the cool wind. It was just cool enough for her. She smiled. As she kept on smiling she became redder.

One morning the big poinsettia looked a maya, from a branch overhead. down at the little poinsettia.

red. You are now ready to greet ready to greet Christmas."



Christmas."

The little poinsettia was very, very happy. She looked at herself. She was red, as red as her big sister.

"Thank you, big warm sun," she said.

"Thank you, gentle, cool wind."

"Happy days are here again," sang

"Yes, I know, little maya, and I am "Why, little sister, you are already ready. See my red blossoms. I am