QUEEN OF THE HURRICANES
ELSIE MACGILL

How a woman conquered terrible handicaps and became Chief Engineer of Canada's Great Hurricane Fighter Plane Factory.

ELsie lived in Vancouver, British Columbia, in the late 20's....

Daddy, I want to study electrical engineering. But Elsie! That's a man's work!

Nonsense! If it's what she wants she'll do it!

Elsie enrolled at Toronto University.

What's the world coming to? A girl taking electrical engineering! Go home to your knitting!

I don't mind your kidding! It won't stop me!

Miss Elsie MacGill! Our first woman engineer!

Four years later....

Hurrah for Elsie!
HER FIRST JOB....

MISS MACGILL, WHY DO YOU WANT TO WORK HERE AT THE AUSTIN AIRCRAFT COMPANY?

YOU'RE OFFERING THE MOST PAY! I'M HALF SCOTCH YOU KNOW!

ELSIE, HOW DO YOU DO IT? HOLDING A JOB HERE AND GOING TO MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY AT NIGHT?

TOM, MY STUDIES IN AVIATION SCIENCE FASCINATE ME!

GENTLEMEN... AND ER... MISS MACGILL... REMEMBER EXAMS WILL BE HELD IN 2 WEEKS!

A FEW NIGHTS LATER....

I... I... DON'T FEEL WELL. I MUST... OH... I'M... GOING TO FAINT...

MISS MACGILL... YOU HAVE... ER... INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

DOCTOR! MY WORK! MY STUDIES!

ELSIE TOOK HER EXAMS IN THE HOSPITAL AND...

MISS MACGILL, YOU HAVE PASSED WITH FLYING COLORS. YOU'RE A VERY COURAGEOUS WOMAN!
SEPTEMBER 3, 1939, THE MIGHTY BRITISH EMPIRE WENT TO WAR!!!

HERE ARE GOVERNMENT ORDERS! WE'RE TO BUILD HURRICANE FIGHTER PLANES HERE! LOOK! 3600 BLUE PRINTS AND NOTHING ELSE TO WORK WITH! HERE'S A JOB I CAN SINK MY TEETH INTO!

SHE WAS PLACED IN CHARGE OF RE-VAMPING THE FACTORY FOR PRODUCTION OF THE HURRICANES.

SWING THAT DRILL PRESS OVER HERE!

RIGHTO!

WOW! IT'S 2 AM!

'WE'VE GOT TO KEEP GOING, BOYS.'

AT LAST, IN JANUARY, 1940, THE FIRST HURRICANE WAS COMPLETED IN CANADA!!!

HOW ARE THOSE TOOLS AND DIES COMING?

SOON WE'LL BE FINISHED.

WE ARE READY TO START MASS PRODUCTION ON THE HURRICANE FIGHTER PLANE!
ELSIE DEVELOPED A DE-ICER FOR THE HURRICANE, WHICH SAVED MANY BRAVE R.A.F. PILOTS' LIVES.

MISS MACGILL'S NEW DE-ICER SURE KEEPS THE WINGS CLEAR OF ICE!

GOSH, ELSIE MACGILL DRIVES LIKE A WHIRLWIND.

SHE WANTS TO BECOME A PILOT, TOO.

ELSIE RUNS HER OWN HOME...

MUM, THE NEW COOK CAN SPEAK ONLY RUMANIAN, BUT SHE'S VERY GOOD.

GOOD COOKS ARE RARE, AND SHE WON'T HAVE TIME TO LEARN ENGLISH. I'D BETTER GET TO SPEAK RUMANIAN!

DESPITE HER HE-MAN TCN
ELSIE IS ALL KINDNESS...

STOP PRODUCTION UNTIL YOU FIND THAT KITTEN. THE POOR LITTLE THING!

THIS, THEN, IS THE AMAZING WOMAN WHO PLAYS SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART IN CANADA'S VALIANT WAR EFFORT. ALL HONOR TO ELSIE MACGILL!