

DIVORCE DECREE

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The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

Circuit Court, In Equity

MYRA E. ETHRIDGE, Complainant

vs.

WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE, Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, ~~Decree Pro Confession~~ answer and waiver and Testimony as noted by the Register, and upon consideration thereof, the Court is of the opinion that the Complainant is entitled to the relief prayed for in said bill.

It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the Complainant and Defendant be, and the same are hereby, dissolved, and that the

said MYRA E. ETHRIDGE is forever divorced from the

said WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE for and on account of

Cruelty

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that neither party to this suit shall again marry except to each other until sixty days after the rendition of this decree, and that if appeal is taken within sixty days, neither party shall again marry except to each other during the pendency of said appeal.

It is further ordered that the Complainant and Respondent be, and they are hereby permitted to again contract marriage upon the payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that William J. Etheridge the Respondent pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 13th day of November, 1951

Jeffrey P. Madbury
Judge Circuit Court, In Equity

I, _____ Register of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original decree rendered by the Judge of the Circuit Court in the above stated cause, which said decree is on file and enrolled in my office.

Witness my hand and seal this the _____ day

of _____, 19____

Register of Circuit Court, In Equity.

MYRA E. ETHRIDGE,	0	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
Complainant,	:	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.
-vs-	0	IN EQUITY.
WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE,	:	NO, _____
Respondent.	0	

ANSWER AND WAIVER

Comes the Respondent in the above entitled cause and for answer to the Bill of Complaint therein admits the allegations as to the ages, residences and marriage and denies each and every other allegation of said Bill of Complaint and demands strict proof thereof.

I agree that the testimony in this cause may be taken by deposition on oral examination, and waive notice of the time and place of the taking such testimony and agree that this cause may be submitted for final decree at any time. I waive all notices to which I may be entitled by law in this cause.

William J. Ethridge
(William J. Ethridge) Respondent.

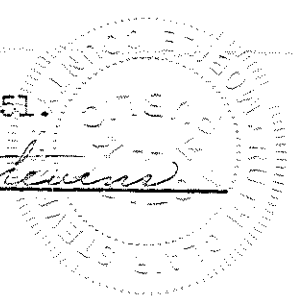
STATE OF ALABAMA,
COUNTY OF MOBILE,

I, Mrs Ruth Clair Stevens, a Notary Public in and for said State and County, do hereby certify that William J. Ethridge, whose name is signed to the foregoing instrument, and who is known to me, acknowledged before me on this day, that being informed of the contents of the instrument, he executed the same voluntarily on the day same bears date.

Witness my hand and seal this 23rd day of October, 1951.

Mrs Ruth Clair Stevens
NOTARY PUBLIC.

STATE OF ALABAMA,
COUNTY OF MOBILE,



MYRA E. ETHRIDGE,	0	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
Complainant,	0	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
-vs-	0	IN EQUITY.
WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE,	0	NO. _____
Respondent.	0	

TO THE HONORABLE TELFAIR J. MASHBURN, JUDGE OF SAID COURT, SITTING IN EQUITY:

Comes the Complainant and shows unto Your Honor and unto this Honorable Court as follows:

ONE

Complainant is the wife of the Respondent, and they were married to each other in July of 1941, at Grove Hill, Alabama. Both Complainant and Respondent are each over the age of twenty-one years. Complainant is a bona-fide resident citizen of Mobile County, Alabama, and she has been such for more than one year next preceding the filing of the bill of Complaint herein. The Respondent is a bona-fide resident citizen of the State of Alabama, and he has been such for approximately 15 years. There is one minor child as issue of their marriage, Linda Carol Ethridge, nine years of age, Said child lives with the Complainant, and she is a fit and proper person to be granted her custody and control.

TWO

Respondent has committed actual violence upon the person of the Complainant, attended with danger to her life or health, or from his conduct there is reasonable apprehension of such violence.

PRAYER FOR PROCESS

Complainant prays that Your Honors will take jurisdiction of this cause, will make the said William J. Ethridge, party-respondent hereto, and will cause him to appear, plead, answer or demur hereto within the time allowed by law and the rules of this Honorable Court.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Complainant further prays that Your Honor will see fit to grant her an absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony with the Respondent, and that she be awarded the custody and control of Linda Carol Ethridge, the minor child born to her marriage with the Respondent, and Complainant prays for such other further and different relief as in equity she may be due; and as in duty bound she will ever pray, etc.

Myra E. Ethridge
COMPLAINANT.

William H. Grayson
SOLICITOR FOR COMPLAINANT.

2104 RECORDED

Myra G. Etheridge
vs.

William J. Etheridge

Bill of Complaint

FILED

OCT 23 1951

ALICE J. DUCK, Registrar

MYRA E. ETHRIDGE,
Complainant,
No.-----VS.
WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE,
Respondent.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.
IN EQUITY.

ORDER OF SUBMISSION

This cause coming on to be heard, is submitted for decree on the pleadings and on the proof
as noted.

Dated, November 5, 1951

NOTE OF EVIDENCE

At the hearing of this cause the following note of evidence was taken to wit:

FOR COMPLAINANT

FILED, 11-6-51
Burke French Register }

- 1. Bill of Complaint.
- 2. Answer and Waiver.
- 3. Testimonies of Myra E. Ethridge and Mrs. J. E. Sheffield, witness on behalf of Complainant.

William J. Ethridge
Solicitor-for Complainant

FOR RESPONDENT

Solicitor-for Respondent

No. _____

MYRA E. ETHRIDGE,
Complainant.

Vs.

WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE,
Respondent.

ORDER OF SUBMISSION
NOTE OF EVIDENCE

FILED
NOV 6 1951
Terms, 19____
19____
Ent. Min. No. _____, Page _____
ALICE J. DUCK, Register

TESTIMONY OF MYRA E. ETHRIDGE, COMPLAINANT, WITNESS ON HER OWN BEHALF:

I am the Complainant in the above styled cause, and I am the wife of the Respondent. We were married to each other on July 5, 1941 at Grove Hill, Alabama. Both myself and the Respondent were each over the age of twenty-one years at the time of the filing of the bill of complaint herein. I am twenty-nine years of age, and the Respondent is thirty-six years of age. I am a bona-fide resident citizen of Mobile County, Alabama, and I have been such for more than one year next preceding the filing of the bill of complaint herein, in fact I have lived in Alabama for fifteen years. Respondent is a bona-fide resident citizen of the State of Alabama, and he has lived in the State of Alabama since his birth.

We have one minor child as issue of our marriage, Linda Carole Ethridge. She is nine years of age, and she lives with me. I am a white lady of good moral character, and I am a fit and proper person to be granted the custody and control of our child.

The Respondent has committed actual violence upon my person, attended with danger to my life and health since our marriage to each other, from the conduct of the Respondent I have reasonable apprehension that he would inflict such actual violence upon my person in the event I were ever to return and live with him again. Respondent is a man of quick and violent temper, which he has exercised on many occasions since our marriage to each other without any provocation or cause for doing so. When he becomes angry with me, he becomes violent and curses and threatens to inflict actual violence upon my person, attended to danger my life and health. On some of these occasions when he has lost his temper he has grabbed me and jerked me about in a rough and violent manner, when at the same time he would be cursing me to do me great bodily harm. He would sometimes jerk me so hard that he would leave my arms sore and bruised. I have exhibited some of these bruises to my sister, Mrs. J. E. Sheffield. On one particular occasion the Respondent became angry with me when I failed to obey one of his commands concerning cutting off the phonograph combination, which I was playing, and he slammed the door shut on the machine while I had my hand inside. The force of the blow was very painful, in

fact it pretty near brock some of the bones in my left hand. When he inflicted this actual violence upon my person, attended to danger my life and health, he shouted at me and used curse words. Respondent owns a pistol, which he usually kept in his bed room, loaded. On several different occasions since our marriage the Respondent has threatened to shoot me with this gun. On one particular occasion, about four weeks ago, the Respondent became angry with me one night when I was away from the house and he went to our house, got the pistol, and drove around town with the pistol beside him on the front seat loaded, looking for me. Fortunately for me, he did not run into me until he cooled off a bit. When he did find me, he still had the gun in the car and when I got in the car to ride home, I sat down on it. He was still angry, but was not in a rage of temper when I got into the car. He demanded to know where I had been, and what I had been doing. When I explained that I had been eating supper at a restaurant after getting off from work, he calmed down and permitted me to take the pistol into the house where I hide it. I do not ever intend to live with the Respondent again for fear that he might do me great bodily harm.

Mary E. E. Thiridge)

TESTIMONY OF MRS. J. E. SHEFFIELD, WITNESS ON BEHALF OF THE COMPLAINANT:

I am the sister of the Complainant. I have known both the Complainant and Respondent since their marriage to each other. Both the Complainant and Respondent are bona-fide resident citizen of the State of Alabama and they have been such for more than one year next preceding the filing of the bill of complaint herein. ~~Complainant and Respondent were married to each other at Grove Hill, Alabama in July of 1941.~~

They have one minor child as issue of their marriage, Linda Carole Ethridge, age nine years. This child lives with the Complainant, and she is a fit and proper person to be granted her custody and control. She has proven to be a wonderful mother and take quite an interest in the welfare and development of her child.

The Respondent has committed actual violence upon the person of the Complainant, attended with danger to her life and health, since their marriage to each other. From the conduct of the Respondent there is reasonable apprehension that he would inflict such violence upon the person of the Complainant if he and she were ever to live together again as husband and wife. I have heard the Respondent threaten to beat and otherwise inflict actual violence upon the Complainant on occasions when he became angry with her for no good reason at all. I have been present when the Respondent has grabbed her and jerked her about in a violent and rough manner in a fit of temper and rage. The Complainant has exhibited bruises and sore spots upon her body to me which were inflicted upon her by the Respondent, at times when he became angry with her. I have heard the Respondent curse and abuse the Complainant quite often without any justification for his actions. I have heard the Respondent talk about his pistol which is usually kept in his room, and I have also heard the Complainant mention this gun, and she also told me about the occasion when the Respondent became angry with her and drove without in his automobile looking for her. The Complainant withdrew from the Respondent's bed and board in September of this year because of his cruelty and she has repeatedly stated that she will never live with him because she is afraid to do so.

Mrs. J. E. Sheffield

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
Baldwin County.

CIRCUIT COURT

TO: JOAN C. GIBSON
1802 DUNCAN ST., MOBILE, ALABAMA

KNOW YE: that we, having full faith in your prudence and competency, have appointed you Commissioner, and by these presents do authorize you, at such time and place as you may appoint, to call before you and examine Myra E. Etheridge and Mrs J. E. Sheffield

as witnesses in behalf of Complainant in a cause pending in our Circuit Court in Baldwin County, of said State, wherein MYRA E. ETHERIDGE

Complainant
and WILLIAM L. ETHERIDGE

Respondent
on oath, to be by you administered, upon them
to take and certify the depositions of the witnesses and return the same to our Court, with all convenient speed, under your hand.

Witness 29th day of October, 1951.

Alice J. Duke
Register.

Commissioner's Fee, \$ None
Witness' Fees, \$ None

No. _____

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT

MYRA E. ETHERIDGE

Complainant—

vs.

WILLIAM J. ETHERIDGE

Defendant—

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION

COMMISSIONER

WITNESSES:

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Joan C. Gibson, the commissioner named in the attached commission and contained in that certain cause now pending in the Honorable The Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, Sitting in Equity, wherein Myra E. Ethridge is Complainant and William J. Ethridge is Respondent, under and by virtue of the power conferred upon me by said commission as such commissioner, caused the said Myra E. Ethridge and the said Mrs. J. E. Sheffield, who were made known to me, to come before me at 2:30 , P. M. on November 5, 1951, at Room 435, First National Bank Building, Mobile, Alabama; that said witnesses were first duly sworn by me as stated; that they were then examined by Mr. William Grayson, Solicitor for Complainant, and they testified in response thereto as is hereinabove written; and the testimony was by me reduced to writing as given by said witnesses in narrative form, and as near as might be identical language of the said witnesses, and that, after said testimony had been so reduced to writing, it was by me read over to the said witnesses, who assented to and signed the same in my presence and in the presence of said Solicitor for Complainant.

I further certify that I am not of counsel of or kin to any of the parties to the said cause, and am not in anywise interested in the result thereof.

Witness my hand this 5th day of November, 1951.


COMMISSIONER.

MYRA E. ETHRIDGE,	0	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
Complainant,	0	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
-vs-	0	IN EQUITY.
WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE,	0	NO. _____
Respondent.	0	

TO THE HONORABLE TELFAIR J. MASHBURN, JUDGE OF SAID COURT, SITTING IN EQUITY:

Comes the Complainant and shows unto Your Honor and unto this Honorable Court as follows:

ONE

Complainant is the wife of the Respondent, and they were married to each other in July of 1941, at Grove Hill, Alabama. Both Complainant and Respondent are each over the age of twenty-one years. Complainant is a bona-fide resident citizen of Mobile County, Alabama, and she has been such for more than one year next preceding the filing of the bill of Complaint herein. The Respondent is a bona-fide resident citizen of the State of Alabama, and he has been such for approximately 15 years. There is one minor child as issue of their marriage, Linda Carol Ethridge, ninety years of age, Said child lives with the Complainant, and she is a fit and proper person to be granted her custody and control.

TWO

Respondent has committed actual violence upon the person of the Complainant, attended with danger to her life or health, or from his conduct there is reasonable apprehension of such violence.

PRAYER FOR PROCESS

Complainant prays that Your Honors will take jurisdiction of this cause, will make the said William J. Ethridge, party-respondent hereto, and will cause him to appear, plead, answer or demur hereto within the time allowed by law and the rules of this Honorable Court.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Complainant further prays that Your Honor will see fit to grant her an absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony with the Respondent, and that she be awarded the custody and control of Linda Carol Ethridge, the minor child born to her marriage with the Respondent, and Complainant prays for such other further and different relief as in equity she may be due; and as in duty bound she will ever pray, etc.

Myra E. Ethridge
COMPLAINANT.

William H. Hagan
SOLICITOR FOR COMPLAINANT.

William Grayson
Lawyer

435 First National Bank Building

Mobile 13, Alabama

Phone 2-0456

October 22, 1951

To the Register's Office
Baldwin County Circuit Court
County Court House
Bay Minette, Alabama

Dear Sir:

Please file the original bill of complaint enclosed herewith, and hold actions on the service copy until we are able to notify you of the Respondent's exact address.

Very truly yours,



William Grayson

WG:jcg
Encl.

MYRA E. ETHRIDGE,

Complainant

No. _____ Vs. _____

WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE,

Defendant

CIRCUIT COURT OF ~~MOBILE~~ BALDWIN
COUNTY, ALABAMA.
IN EQUITY

DEMAND FOR ORAL EXAMINATION

The State of Alabama, }
~~BALDWIN~~ ~~Mobile~~ County }

The Complainant requests the oral examination of the following named witnesses
on her behalf, viz: Myra E. Ethridge, Complainant and Mrs. J. E.

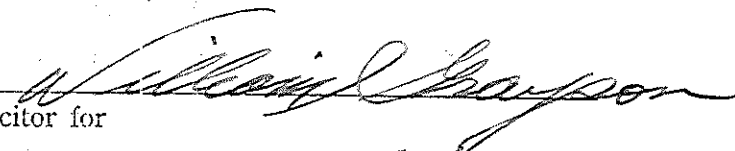
Sheffield,

said witnesses reside in the County of Mobile State of Alabama

Joan C. Gibson who resides at 1802 Duncan Street, Mobile, Alabama,
is suggested as suitable person to be appointed Commissioner to take depositions of said witness
on such oral examination.

Filed _____

~~JAMES A. CRANE~~, Register.


Solicitor for

Complainant

No.

CIRCUIT COURT OF MOBILE COUNTY,
Bay Baldwin
Minette Mobile, Alabama

MYRA E. ETHRIDGE,

Complainant,
Vs.

WILLIAM J. ETHRIDGE,

Respondent.

DEMAND FOR CRAL EXAMINATION

FILED

Oct 29 1951

ALICE J. DUCK, Register

FILED