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## Children's Story When Grandad Was a Boy.

Jock's broken leg was mending nicely but oh, he was so tired of lying in bed. It had rained every day for a week so Jeannie hadn't been able to go out and get wild flowers or butterflies for him. They had looked at all their picture books and Mother had read them stories; they had played all their games; they had cut out paper dolls and they had colored magazine pictures; they had strung beads and sewed kindergarten cards and yet the time seemed to pass so slowly. And, Worst of all, Grandad had been away all week.

Aunt Madge popped her head in at the door.

"Good news, Twinnies," she said "Grandad is coming up the lane."

How delighted they were and how Jeannie bustled around picking up their clippings and tidying Jock's bed. Presently Grandad himself came in with a big parcel which Jeannie eagerly unwrapped. It was a table for Jock's bed, such a funny table with legs less than a foot long. It was light but strong and had a little rim around the edge to keep things from sliding off.

"There," said Grandad as he put it in position across Jock's legs, "that will hold all the books and clippings, and the meals too if you can be proped up high enough."

"Oh Grandad," said Jeannie climbing on his knee, "we have missed you terribly. Do tell us a story."

Grandad laughed. "Why you know all my stories as well as I do. Which one shall it be?"

"About the flying squirrels, please," said Jock, "a squirrel came up on the window sill this morning and it made us think about them."

"Well," Grandad began, "when brother Jim and I were just a little bit older than you are now we were playing one day in the bush behind the school. We came to a high pine stump which the year before had been the home of a family of woodpeckers and we whacked the stump with a stick to see if there was anyone home. Out of the top of the stump sailed something—not a woodpecker but a mother flying squirrel. We tried to climb up to peep in the nest and down came the whole thing nest, baby squirrels and all. There were three of them and we carried them home carefully and made a soft nest for them in an old bird cage. We fed them warm milk with a medicine dropper and they grew splendidly and became quite tame. They aren't like other squirrels, they sleep all day and come out to hunt and play at night. So every evening we would open the cage door and let them out for a game. Up the curtains they would scamper and spreading their "wings" would sail down to our shoulders. Then there would be a hunt through our pockets for bits of bread and cake, and then up the curtains again and away. You know from your picture books what their wings are like—just a piece of skin stretched from each front leg to each hind leg and folded up tight when not in use. Some people think they have real wings sprouting from their shoulder-blades.

One night after their game we could only find two of them. Then we found old Sooty, the barn cat, under the sofa and knew he must have eaten our other pet.

The way that every wild animal meets a tragic end. This surely means wild animals in captivity as well as very few of them live very long.

Jim and I went out for a few days to visit an uncle and left most careful directions with the cook about the feeding of our squirrels. But she was too busy or too lazy to make their bread and milk and gave them table scraps instead. She fed them fat pork one day and when we came home the next morning there was nothing left but a funeral. We were so sorry that we hadn't let them go in the woods and given them a chance for life and liberty."

"Thank you for the story," said Jeannie, "just as soon as Jock can walk we are going to the bush to see if we can find some flying squirrels."

A Worried Darkey  
It was a revival in a southern Church. One obdurate soul stoutly resisted the elder's exhortations.

"Yo' see, its dis way Eldah: Ah's done got a problem. Ah don't see how Ah's gwine git mah shirt on ovah mah wings when ah gets to Glory."

"Dat aint yo' problem," retorted the Elder. "Yo' problem is how is yo' gwine to get yo hat on ovah yo' horns."

## The Charm Of Old Age

Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be, The last of life for which the first is made; Our times are in His hands Who saith, "A whole I planned, Youth shows but half; trust God; see all, nor be afraid."

It is foolish of women to regret growing old. The autumn of a woman's life may be her happiest. Financial troubles, if they ever existed, will most likely be less; children are usually settled in life, and grandchildren are an amusement and an interest without being a responsibility. Old age has joys which youth never dreams of, and whatever may be said in praise of the ardent emotions of youth—and often middle age—they are fraught with stress and torment.

We cannot warm our hands at the fire of life all the time and it is a mercy we cannot. Peace follows yearning and in our declining years our ambitions and hopes and longings grow far less insistent. We have entered the haven. We cease to dread old age when we have reached it. The eager silent waiting for adventure has passed; our boat is safely tied to its moorings.

This all sounds very dull, perhaps. But the boredom associated by youth with old age is not an inexorable penalty by any means and many women over seventy are far more interested in life than they were at twenty-five.

It's a great mistake to be bored and a great confession of mental deficiency. No really clever people are bored with life. Much of course depends upon health, but much more upon the mind. Naturally if the principle concerns of a person's life have been eating, sleeping and dressing, old age will not yield a fruitful crop, but will be bereft of its greatest consolations. By far the best way to conserve in old age is to prepare for it in youth by cultivating a vigorous, interested impressionable mind. What hope for anyone in old age whose brains have become petrified at forty?

We all reach out for love; we all long to be loved in some way or other; and indeed in as many ways as possible. A miserable, discontented old woman is seldom loved; yet on the other hand there are few better counsellors in the many tangles of life than a thoughtful, intelligent warm hearted old woman who has lived and loved and who has given her mental life a chance to develop as well as her physical life.

So do not fear the grey hairs and wrinkles of old age. The grey hair is but as the autumn coloring of the leaf and the wrinkles are the unavoidable tracery of Time. The only real and lasting beauty is beauty of mind and character and if the proper foundation is laid in youth this will increase rather than decrease with the years.

## Seasonable Recipes

### Pickled Peppers

Select large green, red or yellow peppers, Remove seeds (being careful not to let the seeds touch the hands); fill with finely chopped cabbage and onions; stew together and place in salt water overnight; in the morning cover with boiling vinegar. Will be ready for use in about two weeks

### Imitation Ginger

Scrape carrots carefully and cut in pieces the size of preserved ginger; parboil gently, then drain, leaving them on the sieve all night. The next morning weigh them and to each pound of carrot add one pound of sugar, one tablespoonful of essence of ginger, the rind of one half lemon and one-half cup of water. Simmer four hours. Lift out carefully and put in to small jars, taking out the lemon peel. Boil syrup until thick and pour over carrots. Seal and keep in a dark place.

### Spiced Peaches

One and One-half pecks peaches cut in quarters, one and one-half pts. vinegar, five pounds granulated sugar, one-eighth pound each whole cloves and stick cinnamon put in a bag. Boil all together for three hours.

### Grape Conserve

One peck grapes, cook pulp until soft enough to mash through strainer, cook skins and strained pulp with two pounds brown sugar and two enopped oranges until quite thick. Then add one pound raisins and one pound English walnuts, chopped. Cook until like jam.

### Green Tomato Preserve

One peck of green tomatoes, six pounds of sugar, six lemons, one tablespoon of ginger, one cup of water. Wash the tomatoes, remove any dark spots, and weigh them. Cover them with boiling water, let them stand for five minutes, then drain. Slice them in the preserving kettle put a layer of vegetables, then a layer of the sliced lemon, then the sugar with the ginger sprinkled over. Add water, cover the kettle and cook very slowly an hour and a half. Skim and set aside to cool. When perfectly cool return to the fire and simmer gently for an hour. Put up in jars and keep in a cool place.

### Green Tomato Butter

Slice eight pounds tomatoes very thin and chop one orange and one lemon very fine. Boil together one hour and add five pounds sugar and one small cup of vinegar. Cook until it becomes a clear smooth mass.

## THINGS WORTH KNOWING

Tie a piece of stale bread to a white muslin cloth and drop it into the kettle with the boiling cabbage to help absorb the odor Do not cover closely.

To keep lemons fresh keep them in a tightly covered gem-jar or in a crock of cold water

Save waxed paper and use it for rubbing the kitchen range while warm. There is enough wax to give it a slight polish.

Save all empty cereal boxes and pack tightly with all scraps of wrapping paper etc. These will burn in a stove or fireplace.



"... Do you remember Red McCutcheon?"

Two college grads, had adjourned to the locker-room to discuss old friends.

"Old Red? You bet I do! He's with Bywater Electric up at Sandison? I only see him about three times a year, but we're in touch all the time. He's as careless about letter-writing as he always was, but I telephone him one week and he telephones me the next. A lot of other fellows are up there too — it seems as if we have a long distance class reunion every Thursday night."

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