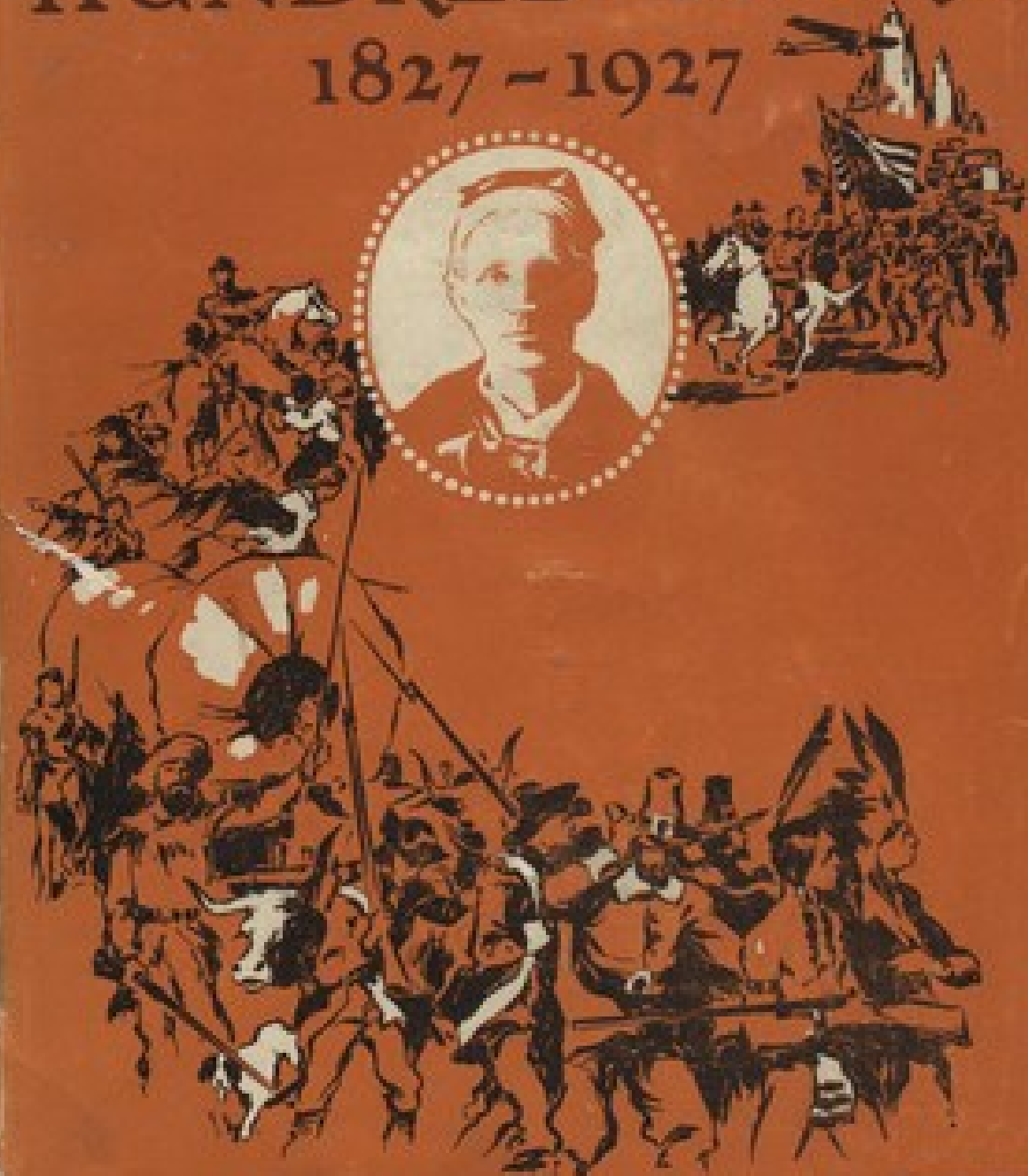


*The Atlantic \$5000 Prize Biography*

# GRANDMOTHER BROWN'S HUNDRED YEARS

1827 - 1927



HARRIET CONNOR BROWN

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# Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927

Harriet Connor Brown

Harriet Connor Brown received the Atlantic per 30 days prize for this tale of her mother-in-law, who, along with her husband, demonstrated a home in Ft. Madison, Iowa, and raised a kin of 7 children. Her tale is informed with recollections, letters, newspaper items, and gives the most bright and private bills of lifestyles in the course of the cost and domestication of the Midwest.

this can be a extremely important text, and person who has been regrettably forgotten and neglected. there's not anything approximately it online, it used to be by no means reprinted, and its writer released not anything else (some of her anti-war and anti-chemical weapon speeches are online, however). yet this article isn't really approximately Harriet, and he or she has performed the simplest to take away herself from it up to possible. What this article is is the voice of a woman, and masses of it truly is easily transcripts of her recollection in the course of interviews along with her granddaughter Harriet, who was once a part of that massive ocean of un-recorded heritage - that of "ordinary" women, of moms and housewives and mystery dreamers, of crazy-tough 19thc midwesterners, of inventive souls whose simply outlet was once within the association of butter on a plate, or the ornament of a bedroom. She was once born in 1827 and her stories have been recorded in 1927. it is a checklist of a lifestyles and a world-view, a Being, lengthy in view that vanished. it's not fancy prose, it isn't "literary", however it is anything actual and whatever important. it really is life. you do not need me to ramble on self-importantly in Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 regards to the issues of that means of this book, what you would like is to listen to slightly the voice of a centenarian conversing approximately ninety years ago: "One evening a few of us have been invited to a celebration at Uncle General's Uncles Dean drove us there – his women and Libbie and me – in his nice carriage. He instructed us, as he set us down, that he'd come for us at a undeniable time and never to maintain him waiting. on the occasion we bought to taking part in 'Pon Honor. you recognize what that is? you're making a pile of hands, then pull them out in accordance with number, and the only that is left has to respond to all questions requested him, truthfully, upon his honor. all of us positioned our ring arms at the pile. there has been no ring on my hand. Dan'l said, "I'll lend you mine." Afterward, whilst Dan'l had long past into the hall, Uncle Dean got here for us, hurrying us alongside in his speedy way. "Oh, Mr. Brown, this is your ring," I called. "Give it so me another time," he answered. i did not are looking to maintain it,. And whilst I bought domestic I woke Ma as much as inform her I had Dan'l Brown's ring. "Child, visit mattress and do not be disturbed approximately it," she said. a number of nights after that I went to making a song school. Dan'l was once there and that i provided him his ring. "Just jeep it a while," he said, backing off whilst I held it out. "I'll inform you. in case you get bored of me, simply hand me the ring!" I by no means gave it back. Behold the result! the following I take a seat with considered one of his boys caring for me – a few 80 years after." And this, for example, provides a feeling of the sociological/feminist significance of the text: "And now inform me in regards to the coming of your family," I suggested. "Well, my dear, i used to be constantly one to take issues hard. existence has consistently intended a lot to me. so that you would not anticipate me to have a huge factor like a child with out a few fuss. The pangs of childbirth! I as soon as knew a girl who stated it rate her no discomfort to have a child, yet that was once no

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longer my experience. within the Bible, at any time when there's have to illustrate the maximum agony, comparability is made up of 'the girl in travail.' "We have been married in October, and the subsequent October Willie used to be here. I had grown up between infants and cared for them whilst just a baby myself, and but i used to be infrequently ready for the ordeal that awaited me. Even my child outfits did not appear to be rather right. Ma laughed while I confirmed them to her. "Why, my dear, did you degree the cat?" she exclaimed. "They are so tiny." "And Willie was once a big, bouncing boy who approximately killed me as he tore his manner into life. Ma used to be no longer with me then, in basic terms an aunt of Dan'l's and his cousin's wife. The healthcare professional who attended me used to be a foul guy and drunken. First, he bled me – ponder it! Then, after he had taken a pint of my blood, he gave me a cup of ergot to hasten labor. i used to be younger and robust and he used to be frightened to be off. while Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 my discomfort might cross no further, I misplaced consciousness. All I be mindful is seeing my arms drawing up in entrance of my eyes. 'Oh, if they are going to simply drop me down, down into that black hole, oh, in the Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 event that they in basic terms will,' I agonized, 'it should be alright.' while I got here to, I heard a toddler cry. 'Your appealing baby!' they informed me. " And this too: "We have been abolitionists, of course. It used to be bred in our bones to hate slavery. either Dan'l's humans and mine have been transparent on that point. We have been accustomed from our earliest formative years to seeing runaway slaves alongside the Ohio River, and ads delivering rewards to someone who could go back them to their masters. I consider seeing slave proprietors coming over from Kentucky with chains and whips, trying to find their slaves. I remember, too, my horror on the sight. I be mindful particularly, one time once we have been dwelling on the Brice House, seeing a guy there who Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 had stuck his slave and was once taking him again handcuffed. The black guy needed to consume so, weighted with irons. think about a pleasant little woman status within the dining-room door due to the fact that pitiful sight! an individual stated the opposite day that the negroes have been at an advantage in Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 slave days than they're now. How might that be, whilst now their young children are taught and they're taken care of like human beings? See what stable ministers a few of them are! considered one of them preached an exceptional sermon the following Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 in our Presbyterian Church no longer goodbye ago.....Once, coming domestic from New Orleans, he observed a slave sale in St. Lewis; observed women and men uncovered on the market on a block in entrance of the courthouse, observed the auctioneer attempting their agility and operating his finger round their mouths precisely as though they have been horses. all of us hated slavery. My father helped many a slave break out at the underground railway, and Dan'l's fogeys did, too. Don't I take into account what Uncle Jack Brown did in that line?" exclaimed Will. "You know, Albany, the place Uncle Jack lived, used to be fairly a station at the underground railway. Uncle Jack used to be a massive fats man. He used to force approximately in an open phaeton with Aunt Susan sitting up beside him in a poke bonnet that had Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 a eco-friendly veil placing over it. Aunt Susan continuously made an outstanding fuss over me while i used to be a bit shaver. sooner or later Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 they drove as much as Father's shop in Amesville. Uncle Jack referred to as Father to at least one part they usually talked jointly very earnestly. yet Aunt Susan by no means spoke back a notice whilst I threw myself upon her. Rebuffed, I moved quickly domestic to mom and informed her approximately it. 'Sh!' she said. Later, I realized that it wasn't Aunt Susan at the back of the

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fairway veil that day, yet a runaway slave, whom Uncle Jack used to be assisting to get away." certain it really is out of print, and will no longer be on your neighborhood library, however the copies on hand on-line are very affordable Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827-1927 and straightforward to find. a few sections of it will probably also be learn on-line here: <http://iagenweb.org/history/gb/title.htm>

## **Grandmother Brown S Hundred Years 1827 1927**

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