

# LITTLE HEATHENS

Hard Times  
And  
High Spirits  
On an  
Iowa Farm  
During the  
Great Depression

By: MILDREAD ARMSTRONG KALISH

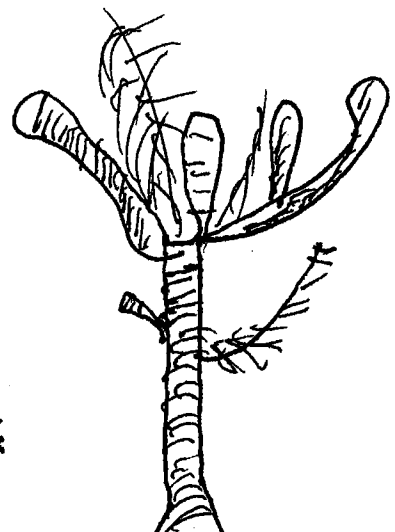
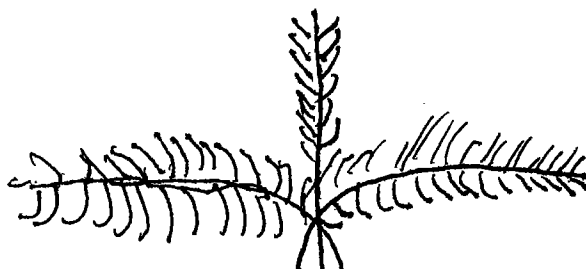
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Book Report By: Ben Kalish



The setting in this book is near Garrison, Iowa on a farm. Mildred explains that she lived in a small two story farmhouse. Surrounding the farm house there are many fields of corn, potatoes, and hay. There are also many wide open fields where Mildred and her brothers and sisters can play whenever they have the time. There is one mehedun surrounding town, this is the nearest place the family can find a doctor or buy medicine (if they absolutely need the care).

Garrison The point of view in this book is most deffentilly first person, because Mildred describes her early life and shares many personal experiences with the reader.

The charactors in the book are for one Mildred, a five year old girl who grows up in the store. Fun, helpfull and mischivious. Then there are her mischivous brothers Jack, John, and the sister Avis.

The plot of this book tells an exciting memoir of Mildred Kalish's life. After her father was banished due to mysterious bad behavior, five-year-old Mildred and her family are ~~could~~ have been simply overwhelmed by the struggle of just trying to survive. Filled with how-tos and recipes from preparing the world's best cheese to cooking and skinning a rabbit, this book does not tell a story of sadness but tells a story that built character and stirs imagination. Mildred grew up on a farm in Iowa, where life was much simpler but also much harder. For example, they were much more self-reliant. The family would only buy life's necessities. And although the work seemed hard, the children still found ways to have fun, by being able to be with the family and the children were allowed once they were done with the chores they could play in the fields or spend time reading.

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The theme in the book is even the hardest things can be done with a little teamwork. One of my favorite parts is when they collect the hay and even the kids referred to as "little" play a big role in making sure everything is done correctly.

The mood in this book is I felt very excited to read about grandma's childhood. The tone might be something like this but she could be feeling excited to be able to write her childhood down on paper.

Metaphor: There is a saying in Iowa, the well water was so hard you had to bite it out of the cup. P. 157

Hyperbole: She's got a tongue loose at both ends and swivel in the middle P. 52

Hyperbole: She can throw out more with a teaspoon than he can bring in with a shovel. p. 54

Hyperbole: He's going to hell in a hand basket p. 56. Metaphor Her's was a no, nonsense, pull-up, your-sorts approach to life. p. 60