

When Grandma Was Small

A story for Lily

Stanley I. Greenspan MD Inc.



"Grandma, what were you like when you were little?" asked Lily.

Grandma Rose smiled and squeezed her hand. "Well," she said, "the gate is right over there. Would you like to see?"



The gate creaked open. On the other side was a meadow Lily had never seen — full of wildflowers and one enormous oak tree.

A little girl in a dusty-rose dress was climbing up its branches.



"I'm Rosie," the girl called down. "Want to see my fort?"

Lily did.



They ate strawberries until their fingers were pink.

"The best things," Rosie said, "are the small ones. The ones nobody writes down."

Lily felt that in her chest.



When the shadows grew long, Rosie walked Lily back to the gate.

"Will I see you again?" Lily asked.

"You already have," said Rosie, "every time Grandma hugs you."



Back in the garden, Grandma Rose was waiting.

Lily hugged her tight.

"Now I know you," Lily whispered, "when you were me."

Questions to Talk About Together

Legacy Conversation Edition | built on Dr. Stanley Greenspan's social-emotional framework

1. Have you ever wondered what Grandma (or Grandpa) was like when they were your age?

2. What's something small — something nobody would write down — that you love?

3. If you could show somebody who loves you one thing from your day today, what would it be?

4. What does it feel like when somebody really understands you?

These questions aren't about facts. They're about feelings — the kind of back-and-forth that keeps families talking long after the book is closed.

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