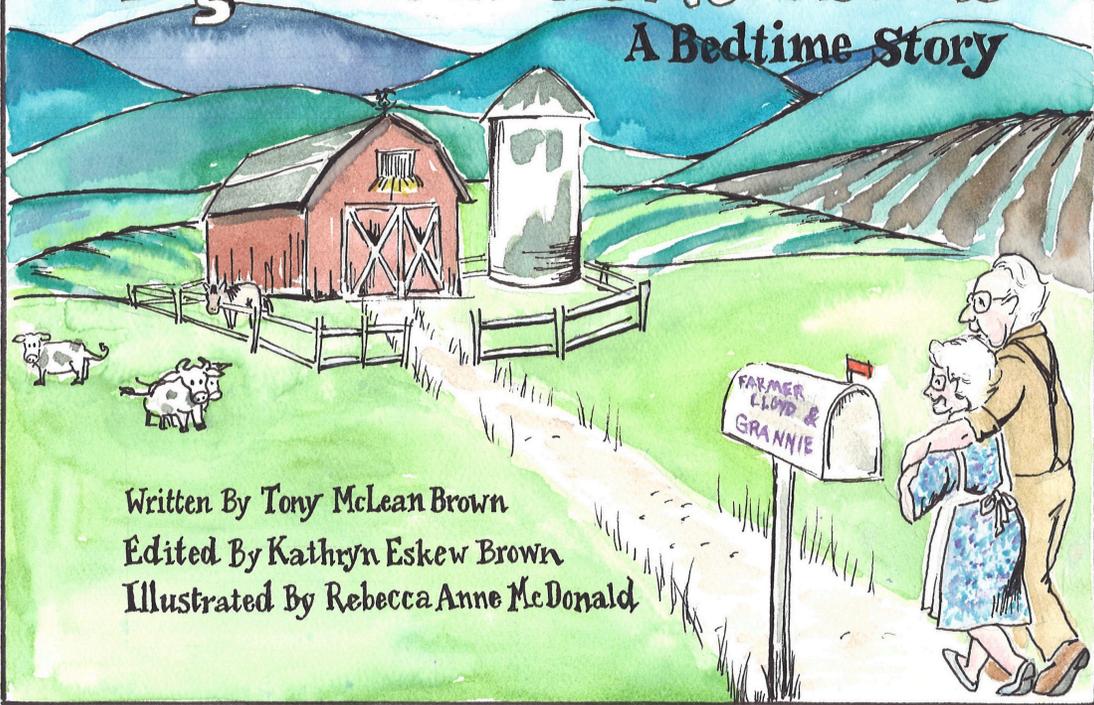


Farmer Lloyd and Grannie's Big Farm in the Mountains

A Bedtime Story



Written By Tony McLean Brown

Edited By Kathryn Eskew Brown

Illustrated By Rebecca Anne McDonald

Dedicated To:

My sons, Daniel and Miles,

Whose natural happiness has reminded me
how fortunate I was to grow up in Western North Carolina.

Gran Lloyd and Grannie Laura,

Whose love and commitment to each other has
defined the meaning of family for us all.

My wife, Kath,

Who has provided me with endless support, love,
and high expectations for all these years.

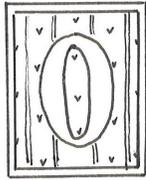
Special Thanks To:

Becky, for her talent, tolerance, and enthusiasm.

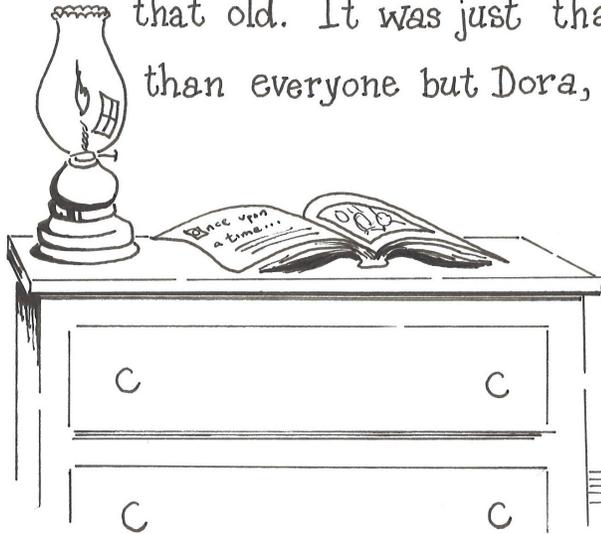


A Grandson's Perspective

After being born, I came to live in GranLloyd & Grannie Laura's house with Grannie Penley, Aunt Veronica, Mike Bogle, my mom and sister. When I was 13, Lloyd and I established Penley Produce. We grew organic vegetables and sold them to Ingles and at the Farmer's Market to pay for my degree from NC State. For many years, Lloyd was the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Francis Asbury United Methodist Church. I served as his Chief of Staff and gofer. Fine Christian man, business partner, neighbor, teacher, choir director, and one hellva farmer. #smalltownsouthernman



nce upon a time, (all good bedtime stories start that way,) there was an old farmer named Lloyd and his wife named Grannie. Farmer Lloyd wasn't really all that old. It was just that he had been around longer than everyone but Dora, and she was his momma.

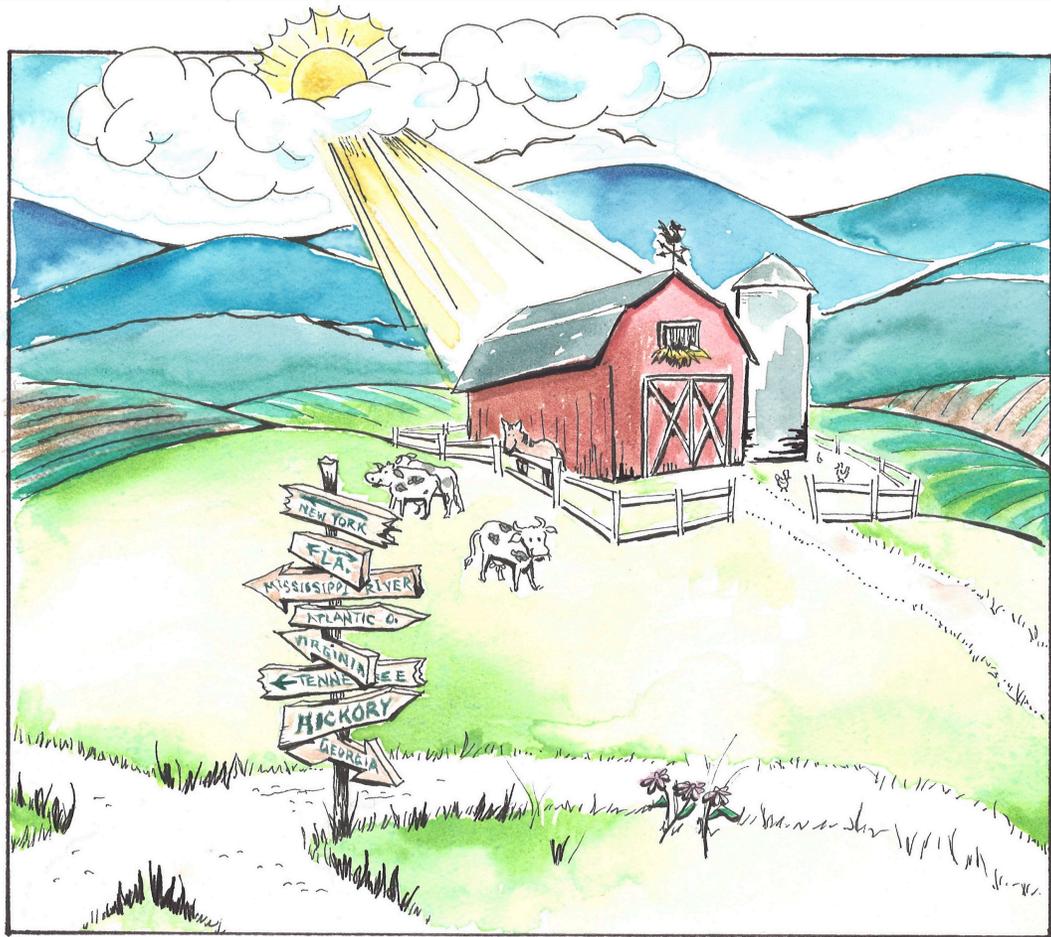






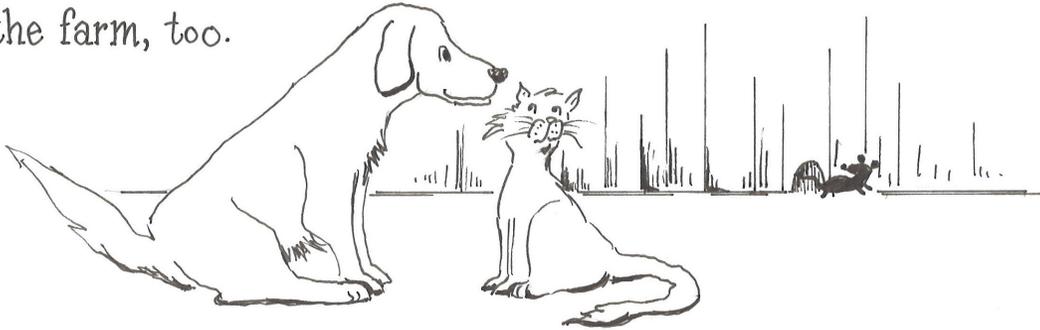
Farmer Lloyd and Grannie lived on a big farm with green grass in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The Blue Ridge Mountains were south of New York and Virginia, north of Florida and Georgia, west of the Atlantic Ocean and Hickory, and east of the Mississippi River and Tennessee. Farmer Lloyd's farm was high in the Blue Ridge Mountains, right next to Heaven.







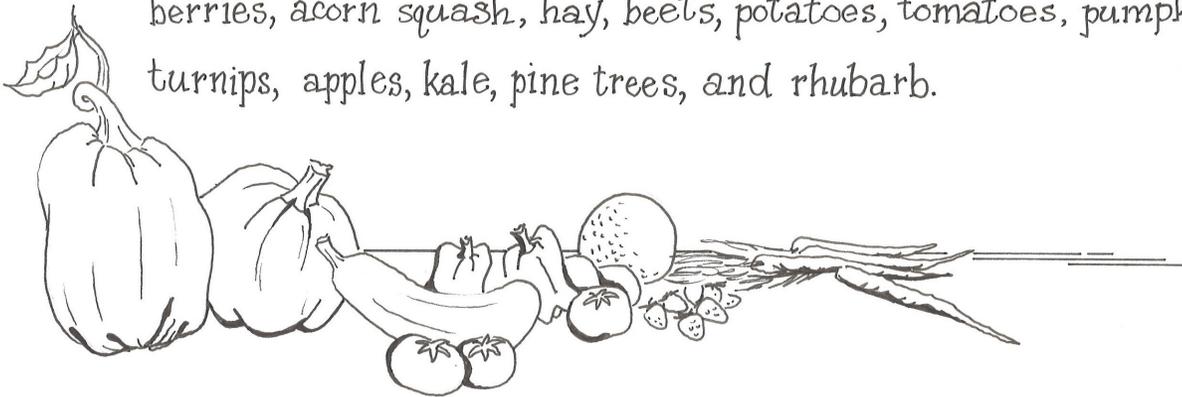
n his farm, Farmer Lloyd had three chickens, six cows, a bull named Two-by-Four, a cat named Fred, a dog named Prince, a mule named Lady, a 1,600 pound horse named Mark, a red tractor and diskhare, a rusty red pick-up truck, a red barn, and four beautiful daughters: Patsy, Sandra, Phyllis, and Veronica. Cousin Mike lived on the farm, too.







Armer Lloyd got up early every morning to grow cucumbers, cantaloupes, corn, beans, mustard greens, peppers, yellow squash, butternut squash, strawberries, blackberries, acorn squash, hay, beets, potatoes, tomatoes, pumpkins, turnips, apples, kale, pine trees, and rhubarb.







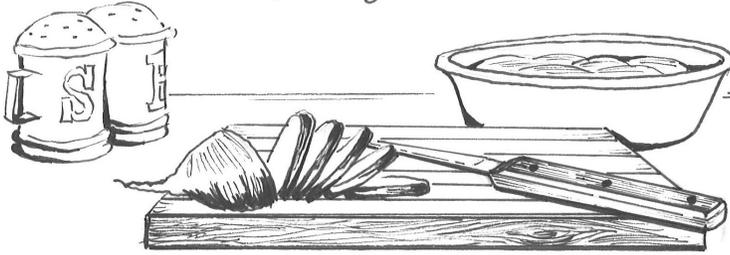
rannie got up early every morning, too. She grew beautiful yellow sunflowers, wonderful red poinsettias, little sticky green cactus, small purple violets, and millions and millions of lovely smelling wild flowers. Grannie and her flowers were very beautiful.







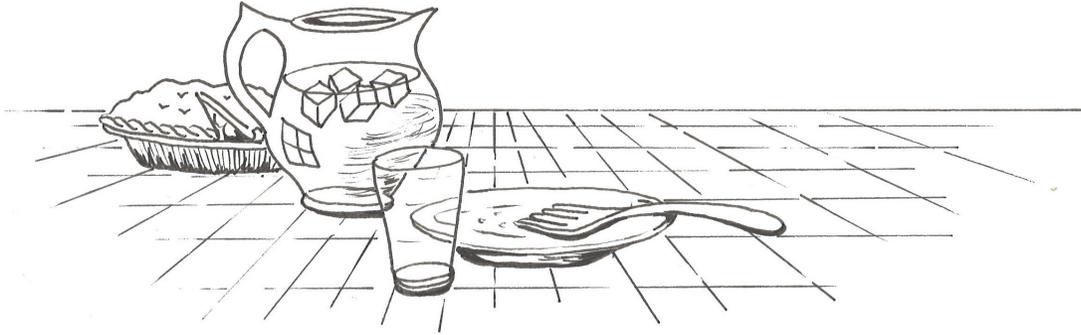
Everyday at dinner time, Grannie made fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, mustard greens, cucumbers and vinegar, green beans, pickled beets, sliced tomatoes, biscuits, apple pie, and sweet ice tea with mint leaves and lemon. Everything Grannie cooked came fresh from the farm.



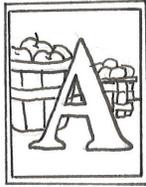




Armer Lloyd loved Grannie's cookin'. He'd eat every bite and then take a long nap under the shade tree with Prince the dog and Fred the cat.

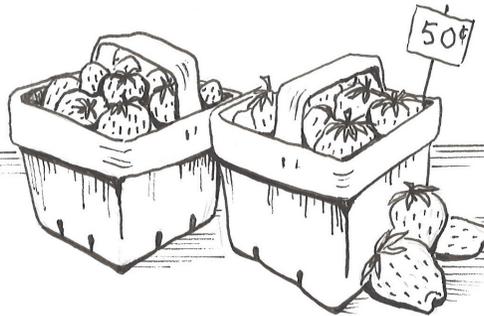


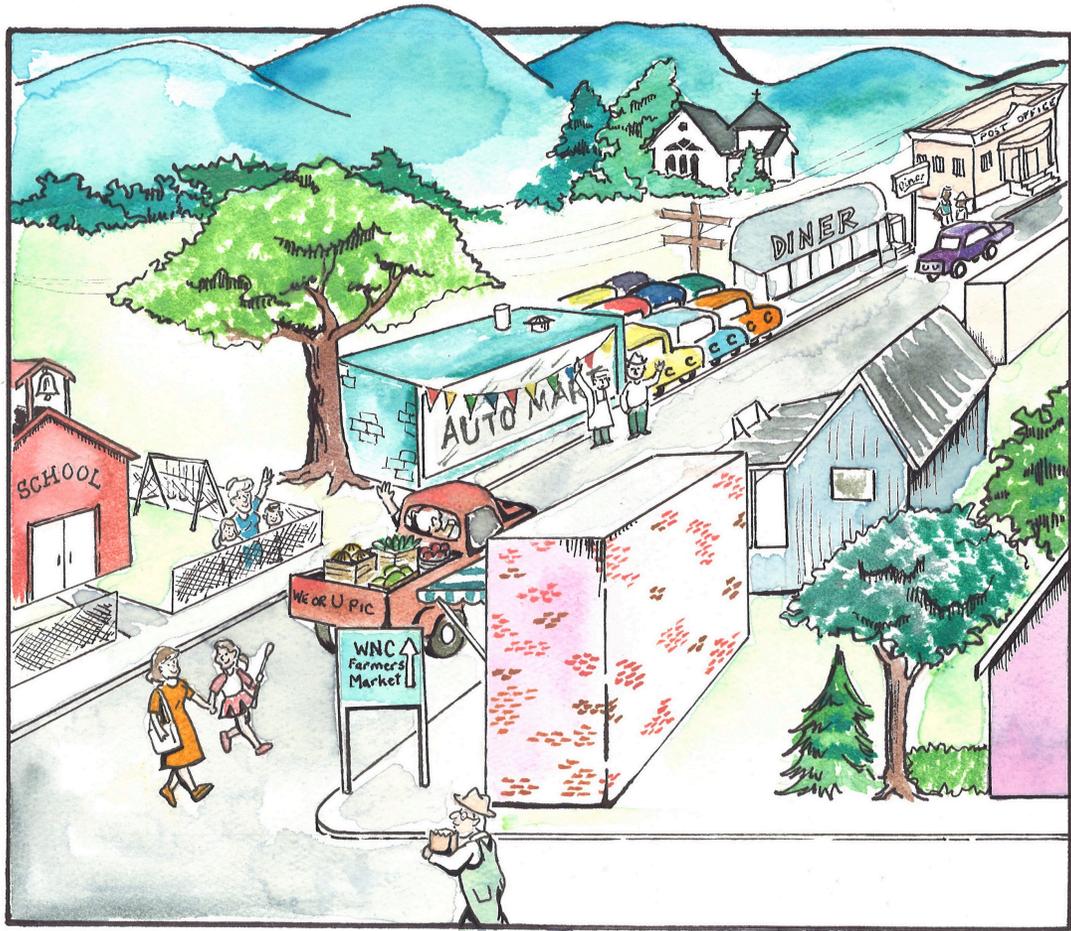


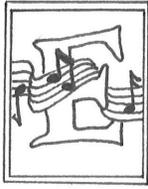


After naptime, Farmer Lloyd would load up his truck and deliver his fresh produce to the Farmer's Market.

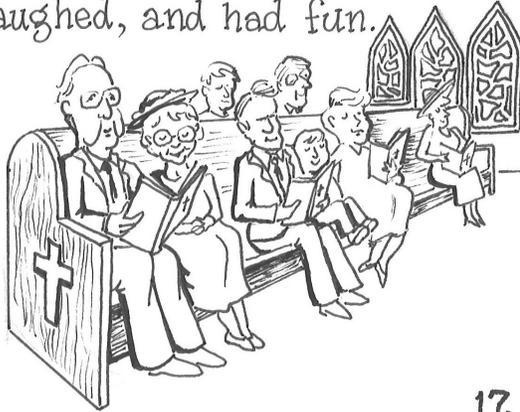
Along the way, Farmer Lloyd would wave to the Preacher at the little white church, Mrs. Medford at the elementary school, Mrs. Buckner at the old feed and seed store, Mr. Crook at the Auto Mart, and Mr. Pruitt at the diner.







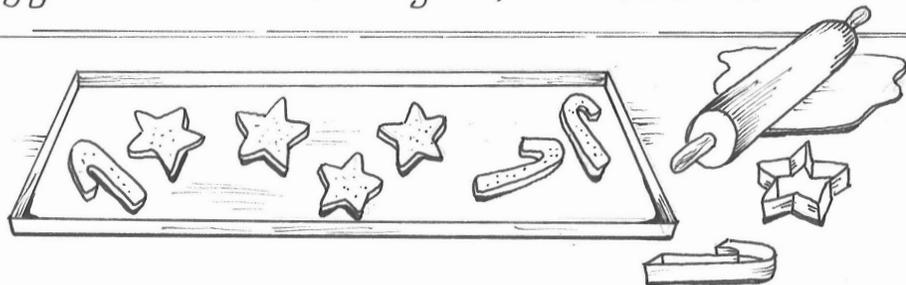
Every Sunday, Farmer Lloyd and Grannie would go to Sunday School at the little white church. Everyone sang songs, read from the Bible, hugged and kissed, laughed, and had fun.







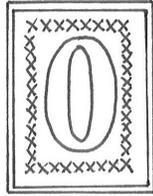
n Christmas Eve, all the children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, aunts and uncles, cousins, neighbors, and friends would go to Farmer Lloyd and Grannie's big farm. Everyone sang songs, read from the Bible, hugged and kissed, laughed, and had fun.



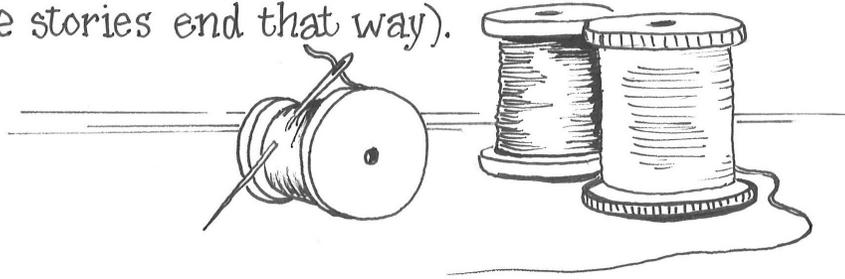


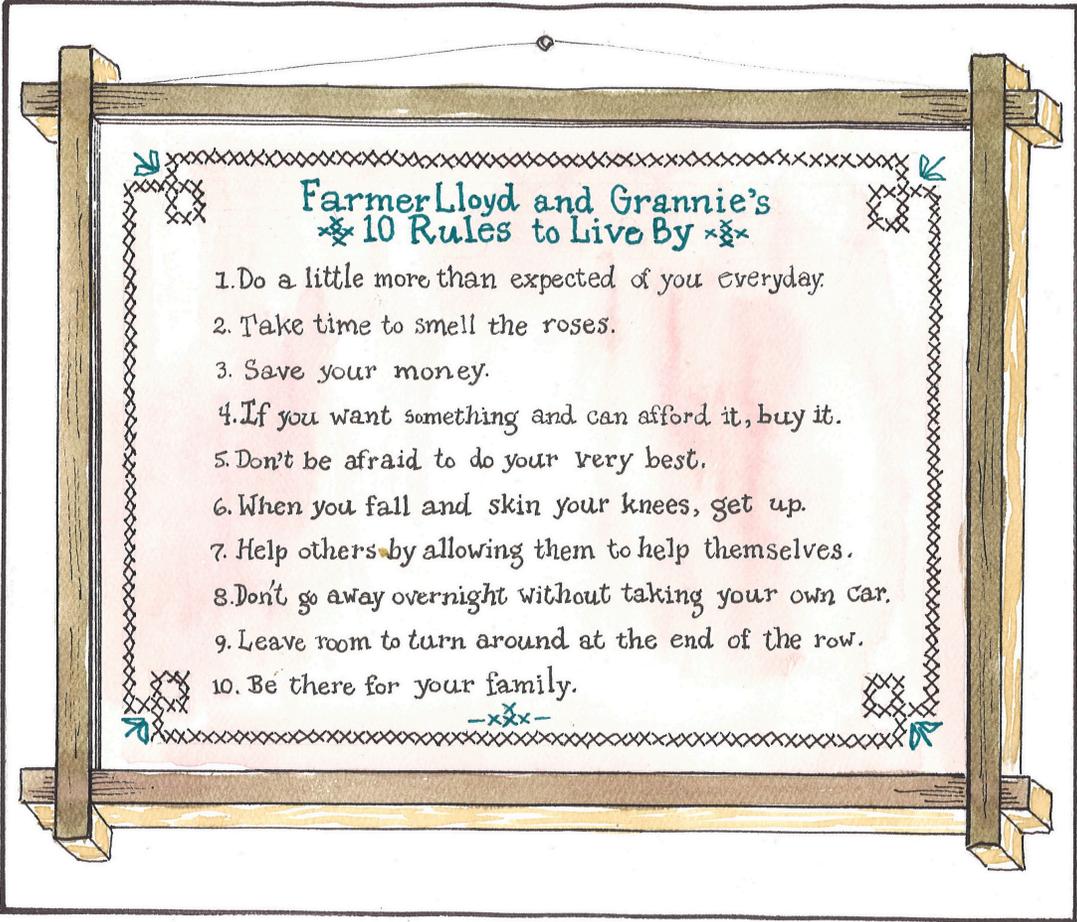
n Valentine's Day, about 100 years ago, Farmer Lloyd and Grannie got hitched. They were sweethearts and loved each other very much. They loved everybody, and everybody loved them. From their love, they grew a big family tree with lots and lots of branches.





Over the years, Farmer Lloyd and Grannie taught everyone in their family many important things by their example. They never got upset and always looked on the bright side. And everyone lived happily ever after— (all good bedtime stories end that way).





Farmer Lloyd and Grannie's
* 10 Rules to Live By *

1. Do a little more than expected of you everyday.
2. Take time to smell the roses.
3. Save your money.
4. If you want something and can afford it, buy it.
5. Don't be afraid to do your very best.
6. When you fall and skin your knees, get up.
7. Help others by allowing them to help themselves.
8. Don't go away overnight without taking your own car.
9. Leave room to turn around at the end of the row.
10. Be there for your family.

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