

~~for rehearsal~~  
Life  
LOOKING THRU GRANDMA'S EYES!

Presented by the Tree of Life Sisterhood at the Hotel Schenley, June 1, 1948.  
at the annual "Gift Luncheon." Guest of Honor - Mrs. Abraham Goldstein,  
commemorating her 65 years of Loyalty and Service to the Congregation.  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

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Grandma is seated in a low chair at lower left of stage with album in her lap. Flashlight is concealed in album. Stage is in darkness.

Soloist steps from behind screen on right of stage. Spotlight.  
Melody - "Loves Old Sweet Song."

Grandma sits at Twilight  
Dreams of days gone by,  
Happiness o'ertakes her  
And we'll tell you why,  
Tree of Life comes forward  
In her world of dreams  
And she lives life over,  
So it does seem  
Just look at her eyes agleam.

Reaching for her album  
Many friends she'll see  
Each one plays a big role  
In her memory  
For they all were leaders  
In our Sisterhood  
Let us follow closely,  
She'll be our guide  
Seeing Histr'y " Thru Grandma's Eyes."

NARRATOR - (Offstage.) All lights out. Narrator has small desk light.

✓ Come dear friends, let us join Grandma  
As she reminisces thru' the yester-year  
Recounting events of life in the Sisterhood  
memories so treasured - Remembrances so dear.

When the Shule was on Ross street  
In the year 1899  
Rabbi Fried often talked with her  
Of ideas he had in mind.

These discussions were ~~very~~ very informal  
And they always took place, said she  
At Goldstein's Kitchen Table  
Over a cup of tea.

That's where the Rabbi talked with Grandma  
About a women's Society  
He wanted the wives and daughters to organize  
a Ladies Auxiliary!

So that same year of '99  
The Auxiliary did form  
Under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Jackson  
Our Sisterhood was born.

Tableau No. 1 soft piano music - some melody of the period.

SPOTLIGHT

Figure steps forward in period dress with gavel in her hand. Stands perfectly still for a moment and then moves gavel and says " The first meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Tree of Life Congregation will now come to order,"

LIGHTS OFF.

NARRATOR - continues and turns her desk light on.

Grandma says these splendid women  
Hitched their wagon to a star  
Translating dreams to deeds  
They gave their first benefit bazaar.

With an idea in that day, so unique  
This women's group caused a sensation  
For they raised one thousand dollars  
and presented it to the Congregation.

In 1905, the Synagogue occupied its present site  
Grandma remembers those years with nostalgic delight  
So many innovations took place there  
They were repeated in Sisterhoods everywhere.

Here a sewing circle was organized  
The first of its kind, Grandma boasts  
They sew ed for hospitals and homes  
These pioneers deserve a toast.

Tableau No. 2 soft piano music of the period.

SPOTLIGHT

Two women dressed in the period with scissors, tape measure and some article on which they are sewing or cutting. Pose for a minute then start to work on material.

LIGHTS OFF.

NARRATOR - continues with her light.

The Golden Anniversary of the Synagogue  
Is indeed an epoch to re-call  
Grandman chuc kles when she thinks  
How 300 guests dined in the Vestry Hall.

In the kitchen of the German Club  
Where the Pittsburgh Playhouse now stands  
The dinner was cooked and carried over  
She says it was simply grand.

This took place during Rabbi Coffee's regime,  
A Rabbi who was looked upon with great esteem  
His prestigs with people of note was quite evident  
The Tree of Life was visited by Teddy Roosevelt, the President!

How Grandma beams when she recalls  
~~How~~ The beautiful Masquerade Purim Balls  
Before the time of the Schenley or Wm. Penn Hotel  
The odd Montefiore Hall did just as well.

Tableau No. 3 Music "After the Ball is Over."

SPOTLIGHT.

A couple in formal old fashioned attire, with masques, come out and walk slowly across stage, lady curtsies etc. Then pose in Waltz position.  
LIGHTS OUT.

NARRATOR continues - with her light.

She remembers when Rabbi Hailperin came, he was single  
So at Sisterhood meetings when he did mingle,  
He noticed a lack of young people -- with much chagrin  
For with just older women, a handsome young Rabbi didn't fit in.

Grandma says he soon married and his bride came here  
She worked hard for the Sisterhood - that very first year  
She brought younger women into the group 'tis true  
Besides, she organized and taught an Adult Hebrew class too!

From what Harriet has proved to be  
We'd just like to add with glee  
Before marrying her he could have sung with bliss  
A melody which goes like this.

SONG "THE GIRL THAT I MARRY." - Singer Steps forward - SPOTLIGHT.

The girl that I marry will have to be  
Quite clever with much personality  
The girl I call my own  
Will take interest in my work, and still run a home  
She'll join with the Sisterhood - then she'll try  
To bring in the young people by and by  
She'll be wise in - Organizin  
Many new things to keep interest rising  
Her interests will vary  
The girl that I ~~xxxx~~ marry must be.

LIGHTS OUT.

NARRATOR CONTINUES with her light.

In Grandma's thoughts she sees a Sisterhood Purim affair  
In the "Y" Auditorium - hundreds of children were coached with care  
On the stage the little ones were seated all around  
And one of them stepped out to sing "ALICE BLUE GOWN."

Tableau No. 4 - SPOTLIGHT.

Small child sings and dances to "Alice Blue Gown." in costume.

LIGHTS OUT.

NARRATOR continues with her light.

That was just one of many numbers Grandman recalls  
For there was everything from an old fashioned Girl to a Sawdust Doll.  
But what Grandma remembers with most cheer  
Is the three thousand dollars they cleared!

When the Sisterhood installed a Kitch<sup>en</sup> she was pleased  
No more climbing up and down steps, her aching feet were now relieved  
For it never failed when downstairs a party ran short  
Up the steps to her own kitchen she'd run for spoons and the sort.

During the 70th anniversary of the Synagogue  
There was a full week of celebration  
And one of these events was Goldstein night  
For they were then 50 years with the congregation.

The former Bar Mitzvah boys gathered that night  
To honor Mr. Goldstein, their teacher, 'Twas an impressive sight,  
First and second generations were among those who came  
Flattered indeed were these grown men, when Mr. Goldstein remembered  
each by name.

Grandma smiled and proudly disclosed  
That night was so thrilling and good to behold  
The Sisterhood presented her with 50 roses of beauty,  
One for each year spent in Congregational duty.

The installations of Junior Sisterhood Grandma thought was grand  
It was about time, said she for the young ones to take a hand  
Greater knowledge, sociability, culture is their aim  
With their youthful spirit, this objective they'll surely attain.

On choir rehearsal days, how happy she would be  
When in her kitchen, the choir would come for tea.  
Today - those visits she does miss  
Her dreams bring back familiar melodies like this

SPOTLIGHT

Tableau No.5 - Two singers from choir sing duet.  
Hebrew traditional melody.  
Singers step off in darkness, then

SPOTLIGHT

VOICE OF SISTERHOOD - Character with good clear vivacious voice comes  
from right of stage over to Grandma and shakes  
Grandma's shoulder.

Wake up Grandma, What we've learned from your dreams was fun -  
But there's a lot more work to be done.  
Listen Grandma - and hear our plans  
Of the NEW TREE OF LIFE BUILDING - Won' t that be grand?

At the corner of Shady and Wilkins stands our lot  
And the location is a peffect spot  
Easy to get to and a fine neighborhood  
Nothing b ut the best forus, that's understood.

The auditorium will be large enough for the c rowds on Friday night  
And the Social hour that fellows will be each one's delight  
For the high holidays - what a treat, even the overflow, will have ~~ample~~  
seat.

Sunday school classes will have interesting rooms  
Attendance and activity will certainly boom.

Boy scouts and Girl Scouts and clubs for every age,  
In a beautiful recreation room, that will even have a stage.  
And to keep the Sisterhood Ladies in trim.  
There will even be classes in Gym.

Grandma, I could go on and on for our plans are less  
And to use a popular word, the new Tree of Life Building will be STUPENDOUS.  
But, Grandma, there's something on our minds and it isn't funny.  
The Sisterhood is anxious to raise a lot of money.

To the new building they've signed a card which said,  
This Sisterhood has made a \$95,000 pledge."  
Grandma, thru' your eyes, past hist'ry was as beautiful as your life  
If history will only repeat itself, it will be nice  
You've dreamed of affairs that were a financial success  
If heritage means anything - then we're certainly blessed!

GRANDMA ANSWERS.

My dear, the Sisterhood is larger today than its ever been,  
If you don't do big things now, it will be to my chagrin  
You owe it to the pioneers who organized this Sisterhood  
Women who were civic minded and who worked as club women should.

They worked with their heart and soul  
The upbuilding of the congregation was their goal.  
With this in mind, with half the members you have today  
Made a lot money in various ways.

For instance a bazaar seemed to bring money very fast  
If they could raise one thousand dollars, this YOU should easily surpass.  
If with a children's show, three thousand dollars they could clear  
You should do TWICE that with the clever women you have here.

Card parties, orange trees, bake sales and such  
Were just a few of the events that brought us luck.  
Now you can put your heads together and find other ways  
To have interesting parties that pay.

The New Tree of Life building is your goal,  
With such a beautiful project, you should work with heart and soul  
If with the spirit of those pioneers you will take heed  
Then with that same spirit of harmony, you will succeed.

Yes, our Sisterhood has had a glorious past.  
Let this inspire you to greater things, that is all we ask.

CLOSING SONG - "DEEP IN MY HEART DEAR - Student Prince) Singer holds Bouquet of  
Dear Grandma Goldstein, we honor you today roses  
We send these roses and with them here's what we say  
We will endeavor, to carry ideals forever,  
You've been so true blue -- May God be kind to you.  
(Stg ge Grandma accepts roses and goes offstage to Honor Guest (as piano con -  
tinues melody) to Speakers Table and presents roses.)

END.