

GRANDMA HAMLOR

GREETINGS MY VIEWERS THIS WAS WRITTEN IN MEMORY OF MY LATE GRANDMOTHER. I WROTE TO ~~TO~~ READ AT THE NEXT FAMILY REUNION BUT GETTING EMOTIONAL AFTER EVERY READING I THINK I'LL REFRAIN FROM THAT IDEA 😊. I JUST RECEIVED A INSPIRATIONAL POEM FROM MOM ALONG WITH A CERTIFICATE OF MY SON'S HIGHEST ACADEMIC AVERAGE. WITH ALL OF THESE THINGS MENTION^{ED} ALONG WITH MY CURRENT SITUATION, I'M GOING TO HAVE A PRETTY ROUGH DAY IF NOT DAYS!
"GRANDMA HAMLOR"

I GREW UP WITHOUT MY FATHER THAT WASN'T GOOD,
FORCING MOM TO DO WHATEVER SHE COULD;

GROWING UP I COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND,
HOW A WOMAN'S STRENGTH COULD EQUAL OR EXCEED A MAN'S;

NOW MOM'S SINGLE IN THE 60'S WITH FOUR OF HER OWN,
IN THAT DAY AND TIME HOW

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COULD SHE MAKE IT ALONE;

OF COURSE SHE SEEKED HELP FROM
NEXT OF KIN,
BEING ALONE GRANDMA HAMLOR
STEPPED IN,

WOW, THIS IS GREAT COULD THIS
REALLY BE,
IGNORANT TO THE THINGS THAT I
WOULD FORSEE;

IN A THREE BEDROOM TRAILOR
DOWN A LONG DIRT ROAD,
STILL TO GOING TO SEE THE UP COMING
LOAD;

A SHORT TIME PASSED NOW IT'S
TIME FOR SCHOOL,
STILL NOT WISE TO THE WAYS OF
RURAL;

GRANDMA SAID YOU'RE IN SCHOOL
IT'S TIME FOR A CHORE,
SHE MUST NOT KNOW I'M DADDY'S
BABY BOY;

WE ALL TOOK TURNS CARRYING
WATER FROM THE SPRING,
WHEN CLOTHS WERE WASHED THERE
WAS MUCH MORE TO BRING;

ON GRANDMA OUTSIDE DOORS WE
WERE ALLOWED TO WALK,
NO MATTER WHAT SHE DID WE WERE
ALLOWED TO TALK;

ALWAYS GIVING ADVICE OF WHAT'S
RIGHT FROM WRONG
USALLY GIVING EXAMPLES THAT
WENT ALONG;

GRANDMA ALLOWED US PETS
SOME FROM A STRAY
NOT KNOWING YOU COULD SHOW
COMPASSION IN THAT WAY;

LATER MY CHORES TURNED INTO JOBS,
NOW I'M CONVINCED I'M WORK-
ING TOO HARD;

WITH REBELLION WOULD COME
DISCIPLINE,
THE MORE I REBELLED THE MORE
GRANDMA WOULD SEND;

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WALKING THAT LONG DIRT ROAD
CATCHING THE BUS,
I DECIDED I'D HAD ENOUGH;

GRANDMA'S CHICKENS, HOG AND
TWO GARDENS,
ENOUGH TO MAKE ANYONE PERSON
HARDEN;

IN MANY WAYS WE OFFERED GRANDMA
ASSISTANCE,
BUT THE LAST THING SHE NEEDED WAS
A GRANDCHILD'S RESISTANCE;

PREPARING MEALS ON A DAILY BASE,
GRANDMA ENHANCING HER GUAREN-
TEED GRACE;

I GRADUATED AND COULDN'T WAIT
TO LEAVE THE AREA,
LEAVING GRANDMA LIKE A BAD
CASE OF MALARIA;

I RESPECT THE RASTAS AND THEIR
WAY OF THINKING,
USING THEIR METHODS MY
THOUGHTS BEGAN SINKING;

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WITH AN ENHANCED DEEP THOUGHT
I THOUGHT ABOUT,

HOW I WENT TO THE MILITARY
AND THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT;

I THOUGHT OF THE FIRST GRADE TO
GRADUATION,

INTENSIVELY ANALYZING THE SIT-
UATION;

SLOWLY SEEING MY IGNORANCE AND
HOW MY VISION'S BEEN OBSCURE;

AS MY THOUGHTS PROGRESSED MY
EYES BECAME BLURRED;

FROM: OUR MAKE SHIFT FARM

TO: OUR SINGLE ALARM

FROM: TELLING US WHEN TO GO

TO: OUR A.M. RADIO

FROM: OUR DOGS AND CATS

TO: NOT TOLERATING RATS

FROM: OUR 9 O'CLOCK CURFEW

TO: OUR FLOWER GARDENS VIEW

FROM: ATTENDING SUNDAY SCHOOL

TO: HOW TO IDENTIFY A FOOL

FROM: TELLING US HOW TO SIT

TO: WAYS TO REMEMBER NOT

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TO FORGET.

FROM: BEING A PARENT AND
GRANDPARENT

TO: KEEPING OUR MORALS AND
ETHICS CURRENT

FROM: THE MANY WAYS SHE DEALT
WITH TENSION

TO: ALL OF THE THINGS IN
MENTION

STILL DEEP IN THOUGHT I BEGAN
TO PRAY,

FATHER WILL YOU HELP ME WITH
A DEPTH I CAN'T PAY;

DAYS LATER I RECEIVED A CALL,
GRANDMA HAD A NEW HOME TWO
STORY AND ALL;

YET SHE'S ALL ALONE AND NEEDS
SOMEONE TO HELP HER,
I WAS PACKED BEFORE EVENING
SUPPER;

DAYS OF GUILT BEGAN TO RELEASE,
THOUGH STILL NOT TOTALLY AT
PEACE;

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I CAN'T REMEMBER A LOT OF
THAT PARTICULAR PLACE,
I CAN REMEMBER THE MANY
SMILES ON HER FACE;

THERE WERE CERTAIN TIMES I
FELT OVER RATED,

YET EVERY SECOND OF THE DAY
I FELT APPRECIATED.

WE ALL KNOW GOOD THINGS MUST
COME TO A END,
GOODBYE GRANDMA HAMLOR MY
PARENT AND MY FRIEND.

Bo Dugue

6/1/11