

The Granny Game

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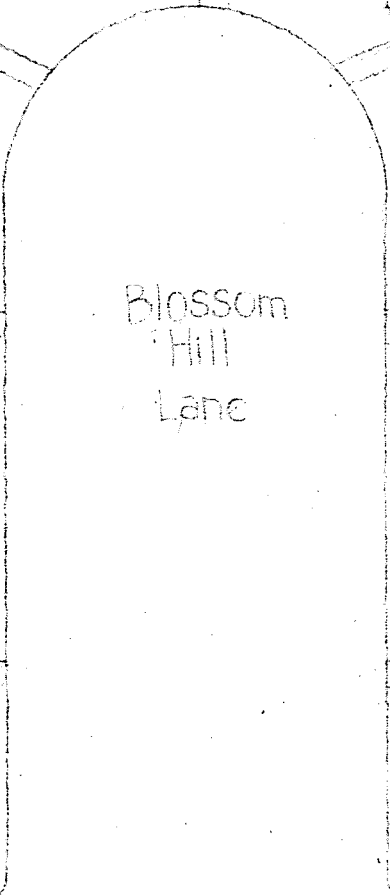
Mr. Tressler



Stacy Henry



Eric Hagel



Blossom
Hill
Lane



Abby, Shawn,
Carly + Jimmy
Hunter



Jason
Birchall

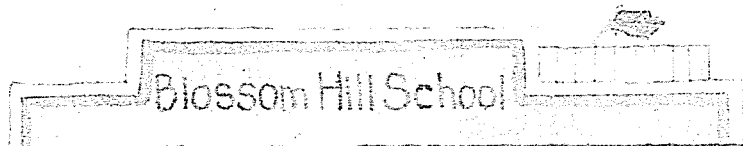


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ONE

Abby Hunter felt like a jitterbox.

Grandma Hunter was coming for the weekend. The pickiest grandma in the west.

Abby dusted and mopped. She checked under the guest room bed. She looked behind the dresser.

Everything must be spotless and neat.

Abby stepped back for a final look. "Double dabble good," she said.

Mother came in just then. "Thank you for helping, Abby. What a nice, clean room," she said.



“Will Grandma notice?” Abby asked. She really hoped so.

Her mother nodded. “Only one thing is missing,” she said with a smile. “Can you guess?”

Abby looked all around the room. “Flowers! Grandma likes fresh flowers,” she said.

“You’re right.” Mother gave Abby a big hug. “We’ll buy some at the florist.”

She looked up at her mother. “I’m going to miss you and Daddy while you’re gone.”

“We’ll miss you, too, honey. But Grandma will take good care of you. And your sister and brothers.” Mother kissed the top of Abby’s head. “The weekend will go fast.”

Suddenly, Abby remembered something about Grandma’s cooking.

Her stomach churned.

Her taste buds faded.

Her nose twitched.

Grandma’s favorite foods were yucky. She liked to cook things like broccoli, Brus-

sels sprouts, and asparagus. The greenest, smelliest vegetables in the world!

Quickly, she told her mother, "Carly and Jimmy will make a fuss about Grandma's cooking. And you know how Shawn likes Korean recipes." She sighed. "What'll we do?"

There was a twinkle in her mother's eye. "Your grandma's very wise."

"Oh," said Abby.

She thought about being *very wise*. Did it mean eating dark green foods? And keeping the house perfectly clean?

Mother was grinning. "Grandma raised your father. Just think what a fine man he turned out to be."

Abby had heard her father's childhood stories. "Grandma and Grandpa had a bunch of children," she said. "Did all of them eat broccoli?"

Mother laughed out loud. "You'll have to ask Grandma about that."

Abby would ask, all right.

First thing tomorrow!