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Norwegian Phrase

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Karla Childers

Meridian, California

November 11, 2017

Norwegian Phrase

Folk Speech

Informant: Karla Childers is my aunt. She is the middle child in a family of 3 children, she was adopted into the family after my grandmother did not think she could have more children after having my father. She spent part of her years growing up in Sacramento, before moving to our family's farm in Meridian, California. Our family has owned property on that same stretch of land since the late 1800s. My aunt Karla was very close with great grandma Nora who passed on Norwegian stories and traditions to my aunt Karla. Karla and her family still reside on our family farm in Meridian, California.

Context: This phrase was told to me over a conversation in my aunt's kitchen. I have never heard this phrase before. Occasionally at an event called Norwegian Tea some of the older women will mention Norwegian words, however, I don't think any of us from the younger generation know any Norwegian. This event is hosted by my aunt Karla and includes all the women who are direct descendants of the Norwegian daughters Nora and Anna of the Pederson family. My aunt Karla was very close with her grandma Nora.

Text: One of my grandmother's favorite phrase, and I'm not going to get this right at all. One of her favorite phrases was, 'Stor, Stor, sta litt, sta vett." And that means 'big head and little sense.' And that was one of her favorite phrases. That's lovely isn't it. I am sure I got that a few times.

Texture: Karla told this with laughter and joy. It was clear she remembers her grandmother Nora fondly. This phrase was one that she remembered easily, compared to some of the other Norwegian phrases she attempted to remember.

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