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MUSINGS

HOLDING YOUR HAND

by Glen V. McIntyre

Holding your hand, fragile, deeply wrinkled, skin translucent like fine alabaster. I remember fireflies at night coming up into the yard, catching them in my hand, the church bell ringing on Sunday clear and distinct across the small town, iris of many colors in your front garden, fruit trees and vegetables in back, moonflowers and their strong perfume on summer nights, sleeping on the mattress in the open air, and lion dens in the dirt, Baltimore oriole nests on the clothes line, the taste of well water in a tin dipper, dozing fitfully before a water-cooled fan; all this I can remember, Grandma. If you don't, let me hold your hand.

GLEN V. MCINTYRE is a museum curator and free-lance writer in Kingfisher; he has submitted many manuscripts to WESTVIEW.

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