

CHAPTER 1

The Cyclone

Dorothy lived in the midst of the great Kansas prairies, with Uncle Henry, who was a farmer, and Aunt Em, who was the farmer's wife. Their house was small, for the lumber to build it had to be carried by wagon many miles. There were four walls, a floor and a roof, which made one room; and this room contained a rusty looking cookstove, a cupboard for the dishes, a table, three or four chairs, and the beds. Uncle Henry and Aunt Em had a big bed in one corner, and Dorothy a little bed in another corner. There was no garret at all, and no cellar—except a small hole dug in the ground, called a cyclone cellar, where the family could go in case one of those great whirlwinds arose, mighty enough to crush any building in its path. It was reached by a trap door in the middle of the floor, from which a ladder led down into the small, dark hole.

When Dorothy stood in the doorway and looked around, she could see nothing but the great gray prairie on every side. Not a tree nor a house broke the broad sweep of flat country that reached to the edge of the sky in all directions. The sun had baked the plowed land into a gray mass, with little cracks running through it.

To be continued tomorrow...

QUESTIONS — TICK ONE BOX

1. What was Uncle Henry's job?

- ☐ He was a teacher
- ☐ He was a farmer
- ☐ He was a baker

2. How did the family get down into the cyclone cellar?

- ☐ Through a door outside
- ☐ Down some wide stairs
- ☐ Through a trap door and ladder

3. What did Dorothy see from the doorway?

- ☐ Tall trees and a river
- ☐ Gray prairie on every side
- ☐ Many houses and a town

HOW WAS IT? TICK IF YOU LIKE

- ☐ Too easy
- ☐ Just right
- ☐ Too hard
- ☐ ♥ Liked it

A NOTE TO MUM OR DAD (IF YOU WANT)