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Behind the Apron Project: Mary Dawkins Interview, 1997

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WEBVTT

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<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay.

<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: Years ago, we had transportation, we didn't have to worry about getting there, it was a bus to take us.

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<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: And now everyone has to drive?

<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: Everyone drive, yeah.

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<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Tell me a little bit more about your background, your family, growing up.

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<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: Okay, my grandmother raised me. And grandfather. My aunt Mildred, I was raised up with her as a sister.

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And then Harold Chu. She adopted him. We were a happy family. Mildred, she got married and she had 15 kids and moved away. And I stayed there until I got married. And I moved away. But we all was very close. We were in walking distance.

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<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay. What's one of your fondest memory of your grandmother, grandfather, and how did they meet, did they--?

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<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: I'm pretty sure my grandmother and grandfather probably grew up in the same neighborhood, just like my husband and I went to school together.

00:31:03.000 --> 00:31:31.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: And?

<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: She was very loving. Grandmothers, there is no love no greater than a grandparent's love. And I can remember sitting on my grandmother's lap, a big girl, and how my grandmother loved me and nourished me. Grandmother's baby, I was.

00:31:31.000 --> 00:31:39.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: What about that house what you grew up in, what do you remember most about that?

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<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: Mostly about the house I grew up in? Well my mother upstairs in the hallway and how I used to be so fidgety, and my aunts and things would always be want to spank me and grandma didn't let them do it. I was grandma baby.

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<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: [[laughs]] When you got sick, what, was there any special remedies that your grandmother would have?

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<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: If I got a cold there was something called horehound tea [[both laugh]] and if our kids had worms they'd give them little spurts of turpentine! [[laughs]] Nobody does that anymore. Course we didn't had to go to doctor, grandma took care of us.

00:32:22.000 --> 00:32:26.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Okay.

<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: Holly leaves, made holly tea and we drank that.

00:32:26.000 --> 00:32:34.970

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Are you still in touch with your sisters and brothers today?

<i>Mary Dawkins </i>: Yes.



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