

- 295 Starts. Volunteered to be interviewed because she believes she has lived a interesting life. Lived in Lewiston 22 years. Lived in current house for 17 years.
- 305 Born in southwestern Minnesota. Was the first child of John and Nora Sims. Father went 12 miles for a doctor, born before doctor arrived. When three years old moved. Her father was a teacher who was making 35 dollars a month.
- 310 Had a second child, her parents. Her mother was also a teacher but made only 25 dollars a month and quit when Eva was born. Folks had hard time balancing the budget. Father went to farming in order to make more money.
- 315 When she was four, arthritis struck her father. Had to adjust in order to keep farming. Her father lived to be 62, but when Eva was 17, she remebers him having to use crutches in order to walk.
- 320 Values. Came from her father . They are desire to learn, read, dedication to the work ethic, appreciation of her own body. Feels her parents sheltered her.
- 327-
- 340 Mother's background. Mother's life revolved around fatehr's illness. Her mother and brother had to run farm because of father's illness. Her mother was a excellent seamstress, leader in the community, taught other women how to sew, also a good cook. Mother won prizes for angel food cake. Mother also devoted to her two sisters. Families share holidays and many other things together: very close.
- 345 Father raised veal. She contributes her good health to diet of liver, vegetables, fruits, and dairy products.
- 352 In high school was tallest and also a disciplinary problem. While in class she would read a book a day. Accomplishes it by putting book in her lap and reading while the teacher was giving the lessons for the day. She was also a organizer and leader in school.
- 360 Speaks about taking screws out of desk and when janitor would try to do the repairs she would toss erasers at him. This resulted in suspension from school. After this incident she wasn't a discipline problem. Her father found out and he assured the teacher that it would not happen again.
- 365 She was a school teacher. Believed in strict discipline. Stressed to students that this was their only chance for them to be educated.
- 373 First started teaching chemistry and other general sciences. She never developed a strong background in these areas, but to her, it seemed teachers were put in positions of teaching subjects that they didn't know about. Later taught only English and Speech. Directed around 100 plays while a teacher.
- 382 Met her husband during the war. He was in the Army. She met him through older couple who rented one of her apartments when she managed a motel. He was a dear friend of the older couple. She wrote letters as did he through this couple. Met on a Sunday, engaged on Wednesday, and married on Saturday.

385-

395 Got involved in a business with a man. Two months later he quit. She had financed the business and was in debt. One evening a realtor bought the business for three times what she paid for it. She tried to resist his efforts to buy the business. She hadn't made any real changes. Said it was the easiest money she had made in her life without working.

396-

end Would travel to resorts in Northern Minnesota. Lived in an apartment building with a contractor. With money from prior business deal bought a Lincoln, it was something she really wanted for herself. Wanted to own a resort. Work didn't bother her. Talked with contractor about building a motel. She still had \$2000-\$3000 left from the previous deal. She used that and the money she was able to borrow from the bank to get started on the motel. By the time she was done with the motel she had a \$20,000 investment. She put down payments on everything she needed. She had bills due everyday of the month, even on Sundays. But she never lost any sleep over the huge debt and eventually she paid it off.

Side II

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010 Starts. Her and her husband flunked every compatibility test they took. Only had reading in common. She believes you can make a go of things if you try hard enough. Were married 24 years.

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Got married because she wanted too. Were a failure if not married, a standard set by society. Feels she hasn't handled men very well. Thinks a strong woman attracts weak men, she feels she is a strong women, but couldn't stand weak men.

025-

068 Had no expectations before marriage. Believes it is a lifetime proposition. Husband felt you could get a divorce. She did divorce him because he would beat on her. He had to be a disciplinary even with his wife. He had a violent temper. He never made a point to control his temper. After divorce she cried everyday for a year, it was a very difficult divorce for her. A year later she felt the worst had past. She decided to write a play about Lewiston. It was a musical comedy. Someone wrote the music and lyrics for her. She wrote the script and directed the play. 4000 people attended the play.

070-

080 Has written five novels. Had enough material published to make it a cost-free hobby. Would prefer to sell her play and novels. Had considered an agent.

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095 Tends to get first or second place on things she submits to the Idaho Writers League. Feels she is not a flop but not a complete success. Really enjoys writting. Has made many contacts and friends for her. Also has sharpened her appreciation for literature and reading. Also writes poetry. Also writes on nostalgia themes.

100-

107 Looked at photograph book. Talks about pictures.

109-

130 First novel a fictionalized version of her marriage. Second novel about women of the John Birch persuasion. They started place for training women in northern Idaho to make contacts with minutemen who were holed out in Northern Idaho. Continues on about her writing and other literary works.

132 Came to Idaho because she sold motel and had a job teaching when she came to Lewiston.

143 Took five to six years to adjust to life in Lewiston.

160 Became a fuller-brush girl, but she hated it. Done this when she was younger.

166-

185 In 1966 went to Russia. Wanted to see it with her own eyes. Went with a group of 16 people who were Unitarians and lead by a priest. Rented a Volkswagen mini-bus and drove all over Russia. Even in the country they weren't allowed to leave main roads. Went to Romania, Vienna, and later on to London. She rented a car and toured England in a car. She later went to Ireland by herself to travel. Has done some other traveling.

199 When 23 her and a couple of girl friends went on a trip. Used a tent and a car for sleeping. Went to Boston, North Carolina, To Missouri and back home. Car was worn out at the end of the trip.

207-

220 Was a campaign manager for Rose Pullman?? who ran for a seat in the state Senate in Idaho. Was only time she got actively involved in politics. She (Rose) was pre-Watergate. She ran on policy of reducing corruptness in government and in the officials who were tied to big campaign contributors. She limited her contributions to \$25.00 which severely hurt her campaign.

224 Eva doesn't consider herself a reformer.

225-

245 Eva's acting career. Worked with Civic Theater. Was its President at one time. Every Wednesday she would go to nursing homes and read to patients. Continues on about her different roles she had in her acting career.

250 Considers herself a rural woman and her life a rural one. Milked cows, done farm work and was raised on a farm. Served as agricultural expert in Russia. Does and doesn't consider Lewiston a rural area.

270 Never had any children. Believes she is sterile. Had Grandular fever in college. Never bothered her that she couldn't have children.

277 Marriage/Decision Making. Was a 50/50 type situation with decision making. Would also talk about things they did. Feels they ran out of things to talk about.

284 Likes to read poetry by Loran Eisle. Fond of Willis Stegner. Still reads a book a week, is a routine.

295-

311 War. Worked in the Post Exchange. Seen one million men go through the one of many in California. Later worked at another Post Exchange. Did housework also so she could live in San Francisco. Her husband was in a hospital, Letterman General Hospital. Wars wounded were brought to Mason Street Dock so ambulances could take them to the hospital. Sirens screamed all night until all the wounded were taken care of. Felt she seen enough war as a civilian.

312-

321 Depression. Had pay cuts as a teacher. Worked for 112 dollars a month. Hamburger was .10¢ per pound which she bought to feed her dog. Never quit her job because she was afraid she wouldn't be able to find another job. Paid \$60.00 per month for rent and managed to buy a used Ford for \$600.00. She felt sorry for students who didn't have jobs waiting for them or no way to attend college. She was at that time able to attend a few classes for a tuition fee of \$25.00.

325-

335 War had a big impact on her character. Depression didn't effect her character much. Seen a parade of Army men, she cried because she felt there was a better way then war.

335-

343 Not active in church. Doesn't consider herself a spiritual person. Driven from church by being told she had to believe.

345-

354 Feels older people should face the realities of old age. Made enough money moonlighting to pay for her house. When it comes times to go to a nursing home, she hopes she can do it with grace.

361 Tape ends.