



Susan Carrabis' From the Crofter's Loft

One Hundred Years From Now

So much has happened to me and others last year that it got me to wondering about the future. How what happens to me might be remembered in the future or how what I do will be remembered. There are many thoughts that get wrapped around this. One of the events was a death in the family. I won't bore you with the details, we aren't the first, nor will we be the last who will suffer this. Some believe that so long as the name is remembered and the life remembered then those who passed have truly not died.

Not wanting to let a good emotion go unanalyzed I started to think about things. I started thinking about what happens when the last person dies who could remember the event or the death. Does this mean that the life or event is essentially no more? It never happened? Or the life never existed? This led to thinking about all of the billions of lives that are gone forever; no one is left alive who remembers them. There's no record or memory of them. How tragic. It only takes a generation or two and the life or event is no more, gone forever.

Think of all of those family pictures you have of unidentified relatives. Is there any one left who can tell you about their lives? Let alone their name and how you're related? And more tragically, do you care?

This thought process eventually led me to think about who would I leave things to when I go. How could I document my life and those that touched me for future generations? Not having any children, a conscious decision, I wondered who I could pass along my fiddle to? My spinning wheel? All of my knowledge. I learned to knit from my mother and grandmother. Today we buy CD's and books to learn things our family used to teach us. But now a days are the kids really interested in learning from their parents, or about their heritage. Not every one can be descended from Cleopatra. There are far more common people than celebrities, far more uneventful days than history book events. We all have lives worth remembering and knowledge worth passing on. We just need to find our own way to do these things.

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