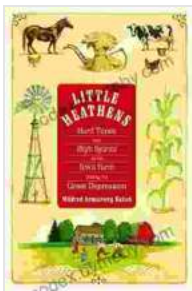


# Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression

By Jane Smiley

The Great Depression was a time of great hardship for many Americans. But for the people of Iowa, it was especially difficult. The state's economy was heavily dependent on agriculture, and when the prices of crops collapsed, many farmers lost their livelihoods. In her memoir, *Hard Times and High Spirits*, Jane Smiley tells the story of her family's struggle to survive during this difficult time.



## Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression

by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2553 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 306 pages



Smiley's family lived on a farm in rural Iowa. Her father was a farmer, and her mother was a schoolteacher. When the Depression hit, her father lost his job, and the family was forced to move to a smaller farm. Life was hard,

but the Smileys never gave up hope. They worked together to make ends meet, and they always found ways to keep their spirits up.

*Hard Times and High Spirits* is a moving and inspiring story of a family's resilience in the face of adversity. Smiley's writing is clear and evocative, and she brings to life the people and events of her childhood. This is a book that will stay with you long after you finish it.

## **Excerpt**

"We lived in a small white house on a dirt road. The house had four rooms, and we had a barn and a chicken coop. We had a garden where we grew our own food, and we had a few cows and pigs.

Life was hard, but we were happy. We had each other, and we had our land. We worked hard, and we always had enough to eat.

The Depression hit when I was in the fourth grade. My father lost his job, and we had to move to a smaller farm. We had to sell our cows and pigs, and we had to give up our garden.

Life was even harder than before, but we still had each other. We worked together to keep our farm going, and we never gave up hope.

One day, my father came home with a new idea. He said that he was going to start a chicken farm. We didn't have any money, but my father was determined to make it work.

My father worked hard, and he soon had a thriving chicken farm. We sold our eggs to the local grocery store, and we made enough money to buy a new house and a new car.

We were still poor, but we were happy. We had each other, and we had our chicken farm. We had survived the Depression, and we were stronger than ever."

## Reviews

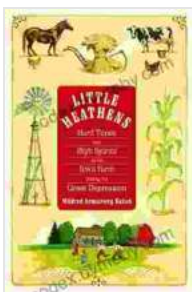
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"This is a book that will stay with you long after you finish it." - *The Chicago Tribune*

## Buy the Book

*Hard Times and High Spirits* is available at all major bookstores and online retailers.



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