



Lou's Dirty Dozen  
"SYNOPSIS"

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## Synopsis

*Lou's Dirty Dozen* is a novel based upon true events, embellished to add excitement for the reader. It is a story told through the eyes and heart of a ten year old girl (my mother...who is now 93 years old) through her early adult life. It is about her remarkable mother (Lula) who was widowed in 1929 with a dozen children. The story depicts the struggles and great achievements of this Godly woman. She was a woman of uncommon gifts and ingenuity. She was the town cobbler; she held the popcorn concession for the local theater while her other children were employed as the movie projectionist and the "hawker" for the movie house. She was a "home nurse" and took care of the sick and the elderly. Her eldest daughter, Rose, had a baby out of wedlock and was her class valedictorian. One son, Howard, held the record for the state high school mile run, which was later broken by Glen Cunningham the Olympic champion. One son, Charlie, was a professional gambler. One son, Napoleon, overcame a stuttering problem. She "home schooled" her children when public school was out of session. She had six of her children teaching in the public school system for the

state of Kansas at the same time. She was a newspaper columnist and was a "stringer" for the Topeka Journal. She had a romantic interest, but she never remarried. My mother (Jessie) was the ring-leader of the children, who did their best to keep their mom from remarrying. She helped my mother get past a sexual assault by the town dentist. She saw some of her children compete on a well known Amateur Talent show. She taught life to her children using the principles found in the Bible, and defined in Deuteronomy 6:1-10.

Her marriage was one of "convenience and arrangement". Her husband was older than she. He was indifferent to her, and was a brute. He had a peg leg. He died of a heart attack.

Lou's Dirty Dozen is a story of a journey few women have ever made. It leaves the reader laughing, crying, and cheering for her and her brood. Maybe, the most remarkable thing she accomplished was that she reared her brood in a two bedroom house, without anyone killing anybody!