



Grampa's Left Arm and Other Stories: Tracing My Immigrant Roots from Galicia to Pennsylvania

Jim Tirjan

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A memoir and a history, Grampa's Left Arm tells the story of Jakob Tirjan and Annie Kaufold, immigrants who settled in southeastern Pennsylvania in the early 1900's. Their village on the Austro-Hungarian eastern frontier faded into history when the province of Galicia came under Polish rule after WWI. The Author's curiosity about the origins of his name led him to explore Eastern Europe's troubled twentieth century history and the societal transformations which shaped his political perspective of the United States. Ethnic clashes, the Red Scare, the KKK, fair wages and strikes, even the Business Plot were all heated topics around the dining table. These arguments planted the seeds of curiosity about the origin of his name. No one in his family knew for sure if Grampa Tirjan was really Austrian, as he claimed, or exactly where he had come from. But they all agreed that greedy captains of industry and politicians had their own interests at heart and working men and women had to look out for themselves. Jim Tirjan's post-WW II all-American boyhood echoed many of the major events of the century: wars, the Depression, Communist spies, the isolation of rural life, lives painfully disrupted in modern industrial society and our fascination with and dependence on the automobile. Grampa Tirjan labored at Baldwin Locomotive Works while Grandma Annie ran a boarding house. Jim's mother bought a new 1931 Plymouth for \$530 with housekeeping wages. Jim picked string beans with prisoners and earned a master's degree. His story is told with humor and compassion and a great appreciation for the forces of history we ignore at our peril. Was Grampa Tirjan really an Austrian? Indeed and then some.

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James Dorman:

Grampa's Left Arm and Other Stories: Tracing My Immigrant Roots from Galicia to Pennsylvania can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to get every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing Grampa's Left Arm and Other Stories: Tracing My Immigrant Roots from Galicia to Pennsylvania however doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest along with based confirm resource information that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand-new stage of crucial thinking.

Silvia Washington:

This Grampa's Left Arm and Other Stories: Tracing My Immigrant Roots from Galicia to Pennsylvania is great guide for you because the content and that is full of information for you who always deal with world and still have to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it facts accurately using great arrange word or we can claim no rambling sentences within it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only gives you straight forward sentences but tricky core information with splendid delivering sentences. Having Grampa's Left Arm and Other Stories: Tracing My Immigrant Roots from Galicia to Pennsylvania in your hand like getting the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no publication that offer you world in ten or fifteen small right but this publication already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. active do you still doubt this?

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