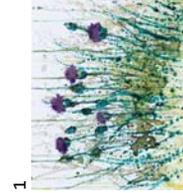


MEMORIES OF MENARD COUNTY



ARTWORK BY CHRISTY FREEMAN STARK

This show is dedicated to my Parents, Sibling and Grandparents (& Aunts, Uncles, Cousins) who share in these memories!



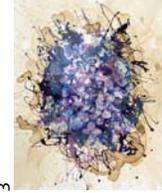
THISTLE

More pretty weeds. Don't touch these lovelies though..they will leave a mark! When they dry, they are cool too! Find them in the ditches across the street or in the bottom prairie.



YELLOW ROSE

Grandma's favorite flower & it seems we had a giant bush in our front yard. I didn't even know until researching memories for this project.



LILACS

At the end of the grape arbor were 2 giant lilac bushes. I can feel and smell the country. Warm summer sun, grapes and lilacs and fresh green aroma. My heaven.



RACCOON

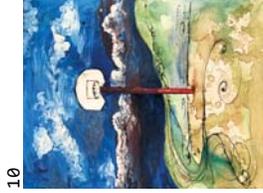
Critters, critters everywhere. We mostly saw bunnies and snakes. Every now and then we would hear a coyote or hawk. These guys stayed in the woods (as far as I remember)



9

CARDINAL

Grandpa had these huge evergreen trees. We would climb to the tippy top and act like we could see Athens. The limbs were perfect for climbing. Sappy.



10

BASKETBALL HOOP

Grandma's backyard had a slight hill (where we would line up our Big Wheels) with this at the bottom. I can't tell you how many games of "Around the World" were played on this dirt & pebble court.



11

REDWING BLACKBIRD

The pond in the backyard was host to many of my favorite critters and sounds. The Redwing Blackbird is my favorite. Summer nights, windows open, crickets, birds, frogs, pussywillow bush.



12

TULIPS

This is what I remember from Grandmas garden & around the flag pole. There was Mother Mary statue, and tulips galore!



13

ROBIN

In the front yard was an old lamppost. We would take the cross bar out and use it as a weapon. We had these criss cross



14

BIG WHEEL

We rode these until the tires split. Troy crashed his into the basement wall causing the picture window to shatter. We didn't wear shoes most of the time so stopping was a feet...literally.



15

FUZZY WUZZY

Aunt Leanne and Uncle Bob bought me this bear for my 2nd birthday. He traveled with me through adulthood...now he is gone. Missing. I miss my Fuzzy Wuzzy.



16

BANANA BIKE

Troy had a brown bike just like this. I was always so jealous. I wanted to be a BMX bike racer. My parents tried to make me into a girl and bought a 3-speed granny bike for my birthday.



17

GRAPES

The grape arbour was between our house and Grandma's. We were not really allowed to be in the grapes..but they were delicious! Warm and sunny and sweet.



18

QUEEN ANNES LACE

Across the street was a dirty, red clay ditch..full of wonderful weeds! This one is my favorite. So delicate and ornate!



19

BACK YARD

If you look out the West facing kitchen windows, you would see a spot of grass, a rolling hill, trees, more rolling hills. Lightening bugs.



20

DANDELIONS

Front yard (before Dad mowed), lay around in the grass and play with the field of dandelions. Do you like butter? Don't drink the milk, it's poison!