The Prayer Quilt

A Pioneer Story and Coloring Book

by

Kate Myers
The Prayer Quilt

by

Kate Myers

A story derived from the journal entries of several real pioneer girls.

From About LDS Guide, Rachel Woods, lds.about.com
When Sarah’s family was ready to cross the plains, there was only room in their wagon for her to bring two special things.
She chose her doll, Mary, and the patchwork quilt Grandma had made for her.
Sarah’s family joined many wagons traveling west to Zion. “Zion is far across the Blue Mountains,” Papa explained when she asked.
Every day Sarah walked so that Grandma could ride on the wagon with Papa. At first she was very tired, but each day she grew stronger.
Every evening they stopped to make camp. Sarah gathered fuel for the fire, then played with her doll while Mama cooked stew and biscuits.
Sunday became her favorite day because she didn’t have to walk. Instead they sang songs and read scripture stories. Her favorite story was Daniel in the lion’s den.
Sometimes, when Mama walked, she tied baby Israel to her with a dish towel.
One day Sarah tied her doll, Mary, to her own waist with a rag.
After walking a long ways, Sarah saw that the rag had become untied. Her doll was missing!
Sarah turned and ran past the wagons. She ran and ran, looking for Mary.
Finally Sarah found her doll on the hard prairie ground. She was so happy.
But when Sarah turned to find the wagons, they were gone!
She hurried along the wagon trail. Her legs were tired but Sarah didn’t dare stop. Soon the sun began to go down.
When it became dark, Sarah was so tired she couldn’t walk any more. She sat down and held Mary close. She was hungry and cold. She wondered if her parents missed her.
The wind felt cold and she shivered. How she wished she had her little quilt to keep her warm!
Far away an animal made a howling noise. Sarah remembered the story of Daniel in the Lion’s den. She remembered Daniel had prayed and God had protected him.
Sarah knelt and said a prayer. She asked Heavenly Father to protect her.
Sarah began to feel warm and safe. She felt as if her little quilt was wrapped around her. Soon she fell asleep.
When Sarah woke up the sun was barely peeping over the hills. She saw Papa, who ran and caught her in his arms.
“We’ve been looking for you all night!” Papa said, his voice sounding like tears. “Let’s go find your mother.”
Mama, Grandma, and everyone in the wagon train were so excited that Sarah was safe.
That evening, lying under her quilt, she thought about being lost, and about her special prayer. Sarah knew Heavenly Father had watched over her, and kept her safe and warm, just like her quilt.