

Dear Great-Grandma

Dear Great-Grandma Katy,  
How did you feel that night,  
When a drunkard pulled his knife on you,  
And hissed at you with spite?  
Dear Great-Grandma Katy,  
You wore your bruises like a badge,  
And in all your years of living,  
You never quite met your match.  
Dear Great-Grandma Frances,  
Soft-smiled and wide-eyed,  
You defied the world by loving your country,  
A woman, who served with pride.  
Dear Great-Grandma Frances,  
Who never gave up the fight,  
You filled my mother's childhood  
With music, color, and light.  
Dear Great-Grandma Helen,  
And her doggy Maggie Mae,  
Together you were buried,  
And together in heaven you play.  
Dear Great-Grandma Helen,  
Even when you forgot my name,  
You still listened to my music,  
You still knew we were the same.  
Dear Great-Grandma Mary,  
Who clawed her way to the top,  
Your courage knew no boundaries,  
And your determination had no stop.  
Dear Great-Grandma Mary,  
With your jewelry and French perfume,  
You valued all your family,  
And you captivated every room.  
Katy, Frances, Helen, Mary,  
The women who built my life,  
No one handed you your futures,  
You fought through pain, suffering, and strife.  
My dear great-grandmothers,  
Whose legacies I now carry,  
I owe my every happiness to you,  
Thank you, Katy, Frances, Helen, and Mary.

*To my great-grandmothers, and all the other brave women in my life. Thank you.*