LEGACY
STORYBOOK

10

How much of your parent's story do you actually know?

Ten questions about your mom or dad. Answer them yourself before you ask them anything.

The Family Story Test, a free guide from Legacy Storybook. It takes ten minutes and a pen. Every blank you leave is a story only one person can tell.

PART ONE · THE TEST

Answer these *about them*

Pick one parent. Write your answer on the line, then tick the box only if you could give a real detail.

1. Where did your parents meet, and who spoke first? ☐
2. What was their first paying job, and what did it pay? ☐
3. What was the name of the street they grew up on? ☐
4. Who was their best friend at sixteen? ☐
5. What did they want to be before life decided for them? ☐
6. What were their grandparents' names, and where were they from? ☐
7. What was the hardest year of their life, and what got them through it? ☐
8. What song takes them straight back to being young? ☐
9. What is one decision they would make differently? ☐
10. What did their house smell like on a holiday when they were a child? ☐

The rule: it only counts if you can name the place, the person, the year, or the price. "Somewhere in Ohio" and "I think he worked at a factory" don't count.

PART TWO · YOUR SCORE

Count the *ticks*

8–10

You've been listening.

You know the outline of their life better than most. The next layer is the part they've never been asked about, and that layer is the one families wish they had later.

4–7

You know the headlines.

You've heard the stories they tell at dinner. The blanks are the stories they don't tell unless someone sits down and asks.

0–3

Most of it is still with them.

That isn't a failing. Nobody asks their parents about their best friend at sixteen. But right now, every blank on that page exists in one place only.

WHY THE DETAILS MATTER

The stories usually stay. The details are what slip: the street name, the price, who spoke first.

They are also what make a story feel true when a grandchild reads it. "Dad had an old car" is a fact. "A '46 Ford, thirty-five dollars, and the brakes went out on our own street" is a story.

THIS YEAR

The holidays may be the one time this year your family is at the same table. Pick one blank from page 2 and ask it there. Then turn the page.

PART THREE · YOUR FIRST SITTING

Start with *Chapter One*

Every book we make has nine chapters. Here is how to open the first one yourself, this week.

Press record

Set your phone on the table. Their voice telling it will matter as much as the story.

Bring a photo

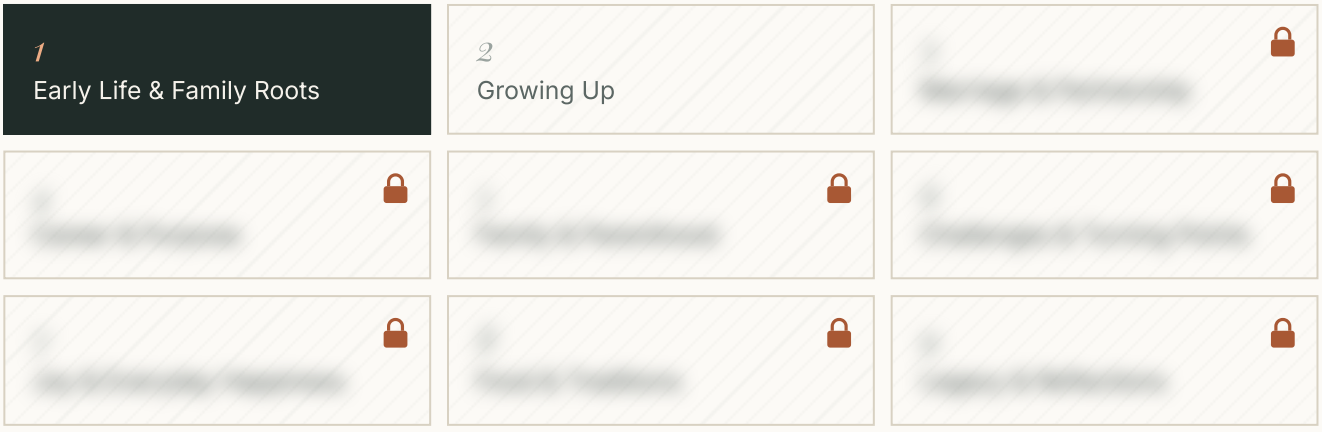
Ask who took it and what happened that day. It gives them somewhere to stand.

Ask for the detail

The street, the name, the price. Details pull the memory up with them.

Five questions to open Chapter One

1. What is the very first thing you remember?
2. Walk me through the house you grew up in, room by room.
3. What did your parents do for work, and what were they like at the end of a long day?
4. Who was the character in the family, the one everyone told stories about?
5. Where did our family come from before that, and how did they end up there?



Chapter One is the easy part: people like talking about where they came from. The stories you've never heard (the courtship, the hard year, the decision they still think about) are in Chapters Two through Nine. Those come out over hours, once someone knows where to push and they've stopped noticing the microphone. That part is what we do.

FROM CHAPTER TWO OF A REAL BOOK

What Chapter Two *sounds like*

Dick recorded his life story with us at eighty-seven. This is from Chapter Two of his finished book, in his own words.

CHAPTER TWO · GROWING UP & BECOMING YOURSELF

And then my three friends decided they were going to join the Army. This was April or May of 1957, not long after we'd all graduated. I didn't believe them. "I don't believe you guys are gonna do this," I told them. "I've got to see it."

So I found out where the recruiting office was and what time they were going, and I said, "I'm going to be there when you do this." I was working, but I had the car, so I could drive over.

So I drove over to watch them do it. And...

What happened at that recruiting office is in your inbox tomorrow.

Your parent has a Chapter Two, too.

We sit down with them, record every chapter, and turn it into a hardcover your family keeps. It starts with a free 15-minute call about your parent.

Take the First Step

Free · 15 minutes · No commitment required.

legacystorybook.com