

Carrie Elizabeth Allen Smith

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Carrie Elizabeth Allen Smith was born in Houston, Texas on August 14, 1890. She was the daughter of Emmett Browne Allen and Elizabeth Powell Journey. Carrie was only three weeks old when her mother died. After her mother's death, Carrie lived with her grandmother, Caroline Wetsell Journey, under whose guardianship she remained until she reached young womanhood.

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Carrie's grandparents, Caroline Wetsell and Henry Journey, have an illustrious Texas History background.

Henry Journey was one of the members of the famous Mier Expedition. While he was held prisoner in the Castle of Perote in Mexico City in 1843, he made a Violin out of soup bones, a stolen file and bits of wood left lying about in the carpenter shop by the workers who built the Chair of State for Santa Anna. He was fortunate to have been one among the men who drew a white bean after the defeat of the Texans at Mier. The Violin, incidently, is in the State Library in Austin, Texas. It is called "The Old Violin of Perote".

Two of Carrie Elizabeth's ancestors, Augusta C. Allen and John Kirby Allen, were widely known as "The Allen Brothers". They founded the City of Houston, Texas in 1836. Augusta C. who selected the site and laid out the city was born at the Indian Village of Canasarague, Madison County, New York in 1806. The two brothers chose a site on the banks of the Buffalo Bayou, which at that time was called "Allen's Landing", a site that was destined to become one of the nations largest Cities.

Still another famous ancestor of Elizabeth's was Sara Chapman who married Roland Allen, her great Uncle, on Nov. 27, 1804. The renowned "Uncle Johnny Appleseed" was a descendant of John Abney Chapman, better known as "Johnny Chapman". He was a poet and author. The Chapman descendancy are settle in Virginia, Maryland and Pennesylvania, as well

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as in New England.

When Carrie was twelve years old, she and her grandmother left Houston and moved to Burnet, Texas. They lived in Burnet until 1902, when they moved to Silvertown, Texas, a small town in the Panhandle. While in Silvertown, they lived with Abraham Leister Journeay, Mrs. Journeay's son, who was County Judge and Superintendent of Schools in Silvertown, after three years in Silvertown, the Journeays moved to Clarendon, Texas. While ^{living in Clarendon, Abraham} ~~in Clarendon, Abraham~~ was mayor.

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In 1919, Carrie, her grandmother and her Uncle came to Port Lavaca by covered wagon as they ^{had} did in all their other previous moves which was their only means of transportation at that time.

Carrie finished High School in Port Lavaca, then attended the College of Industrial Arts in Denton, Texas. ~~It is~~ now called Texas Women's University.

Elizabeth married Stanley Edison Smith in her Uncle's home on May 12, 1917, at 8:00 P.M. After their marriage, they moved into their home on 201 South Commerce St., where they lived for thirty-one years until 1948 when they moved out into the country.

The Stanley Smiths had three children; Marie Suzanne, born September 20, 1919; Stanley Allen, born January 10, 1922; and David Bruce, born September 5, 1923.

Submitted by

Marie Suzanne Coward



HENRY JOURNEAY, one of the Mier prisoners, occupied his time while in Perote dungeon with the making of this violin, for the construction of which he had only a razor and a piece of glass.

