

# *The Hendricks Trilogy*

The stories of the earliest settlers  
of  
Hendricks Minnesota

## SPEAK TO ME, ANCESTOR

Where did you come from, ancestor of mine?  
What made you travel so far back in time?  
What did you look like? Were your eyes blue?  
Were you fair-skinned and freckled? Do I look like you?

Were you a tinker? Did you work with your hands?  
Did you leave family back in your homeland?  
Did you know what awaited? Was this land harsh or kind?  
Had you any idea of what you would find?

Did you feel like a stranger so far from your home?  
Did you travel with family? Did you travel alone?  
Did you pass Lady Liberty with her arms open wide?  
Were you brave and excited or were you terrified?

Speak to me, ancestor. Help me to know  
some clues to this mystery that began long ago.  
Give me the answers so one day I'll see  
the link in the history that joins you and me.

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The 31 immigrants from Singasaas, Storen, or Haltdalen Norway, who traveled across the prairie by wagon train in 1873, and who settled along the shores of Lake Hendricks, left us an incredible document, *The Immigrants Trek*. That booklet told the story of that wagon train in their own words and is the foundation document of this book.

However, it left us wondering what were the reasons for their emigration from Norway and what happened to their families as they settled on this virgin territory.

This document is our attempt at answering those questions through 3 individual documents.

## *From Singasaas to America*

by Jens Winsnes

This document could be justly named *Before the Trek* as it covers the conditions in Norway that led up to the migration as well as the methods of travel used. It also documents the names of all who emigrated from Singasaas prior to 1905.

## *The Immigrants' Trek*

by Gustav O. Sandro

The foundation document: A detailed History of the Lake Hendricks Colony in Brookings County, Dakota Territory, from 1873 – 1881

## *Hendricks Pioneers*

*by their descendants*

The story of those early pioneers who came to the Hendricks area. This truly could be named *After the Trek* as it includes all who were on the wagon train and others who followed. Each family is discussed by their descendants.

