

Flora Macdonald

It is difficult to write of myself.

It would be impossible had I not met Whitman.

So self-conscious and afraid are we of ourselves, we can easily talk about all else except the very one we should know the most about.

Whitman talked about himself and he was so big that in talking about himself he talked about everyone else.

He was neither ashamed nor afraid and his consciousness grew till he embodied the Universe.


I do not imagine that I have much that is new or original to give to the world, only what I have to give may be a little differently presented.

I am not alone in realizing that in the mysterious depths of the Inner Life souls can hold communion with other souls both in and out of the physical body.

My visions and communions though sometimes interfered with by the discords of conditions have been both clear and prophetic.

I have been an interested tenant of Mrs. Denison's body and at times we differ so vastly in our reasoning and conclusions that I have come to believe she and I are two different personalities.

However, as she is the one with whom I have grown and developed in this present life, I shall talk of her as of someone outside myself.

 Her experiences as a child, as a pupil at the schools of Picton, as a teacher in a backwoods French settlement, as a secretary in an insurance company, as a buyer for a millinery firm, as manager of a large costuming department with the Robert Simpson Co., as manager of a business of her own, as a speculator in real estate, as a worker in the Woman's Suffrage Movement, as National Leader for four years, as many times delegate to conferences and conventions in the United States and Europe, as a departmental editor in the Sunday World, all these and many more have been a splendid school from which I have learned a few lessons.

(Her experience as a mother—may she some day tell that story herself— even I would not encroach on that holy ground.)

I have been with her through varied scenes.

I have studied social conditions and compared the standards of value of nations and peoples.

I have watched some well known people broaden and grow, and I have watched others shrivel and shrink.