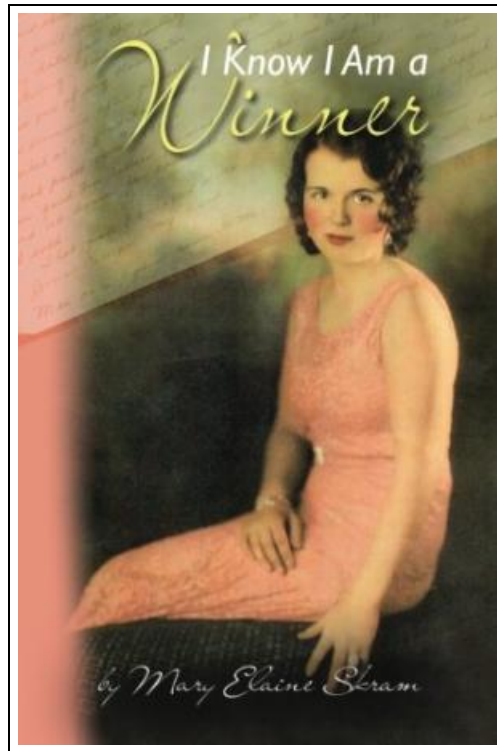


I Know I Am a Winner



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I KNOW I AM A WINNER



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Createspace, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 201 x 132 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In simply sublime prose, Mary Elaine Skram used the power of the written word to share her life with her twenty-three grandchildren. Now, I Know I Am a Winner gathers these evocative writings to lay out a life finely lived, with compassion, heart, and gentle humor. Bringing to vivid life a time in this country that is long gone, this rich memoir reveals a piece of the heartland, and offers a rare vantage of twentieth-century America from the kind eyes of a wife, mother, and selfless caretaker. Starting her narrative with tales of her forebears, I Know I Am a Winner traces her family from her Irish-Norwegian roots to Iowa, through a brief interim homesteading in South Dakota, and back soundly in Iowa. From there, the Knapp family prospered in good times, and persevered in the hard times of the Depression. In shimmering detail, the author offers up anecdotes and descriptions of daily life that paint vivid portraits of her gentle father Anton and entrepreneurial mother Lillian, weaving in their Catholic faith, commercial enterprises, and congenial family outings. From lean times to fur coats, the Knapps tell a story of the struggle and success of a solid marriage through the decades. From there, she shares redolent recollections of aunts Rose and Mae, two distinctly devoted figures in Skram's life, who each had convictions and generosity that shored their niece's family in times challenging and celebratory. Skram also features sketches of her siblings, including the dynamic brother Dick and heroic younger brother Paul. She also dedicates a chapter to Kathryn, with an illustrative tale of her extraordinary conviction in getting Catholic religion classes to town, and baby...



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