

Chicks Dixie

"Aunt Mattie's Quilt"

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Aunt Mattie bent a thousand times down the long black
rows
Then battled with the angry weeds so little seeds could
grow
Come summer Mattie pulled the snow from cruel and
cutting bolls
She was patient pale and slender and was only eight
years old

Round 'n round the spinning wheel beneath Aunt
Mattie's boot
She recalled the soil and cotton seeds and summer's
hopeful shoots
Two winters spun out summer's threads in rich and
creamy folds
And she had a bolt of cotton cloth when she turned ten
years old

If we bend and plant the seeds and tame the wicked
weeds
If we let the sun and rain assist and simplify our needs
If we follow in the barefoot path of one persistent girl
We'll throw a healing quilt across an ever ailing world

Indigo and lavender made up Aunt Mattie's sky
Remembering her childhood days she made the rustic
dye
The hour before the day would end it fed young
Mattie's dream
She made indigo and lavender when she turned just
fourteen

If we bend and plant the seeds and tame the wicked
weeds
If we let the sun and rain assist and simplify our needs
If we follow in the barefoot path of one persistent girl
We'll throw a healing quilt across an ever ailing world

Aunt Mattie bends a thousand times down each
patchwork row
Piece by piece and stitch by stitch in fading candle

glow

The valley of the shadow cannot call her from her
seams

Until finishing her lifetime's work she dies at seventeen

If we bend and plant the seeds and tame the wicked
weeds

If we let the sun and rain assist and simplify our needs

If we follow in the barefoot path of one persistent girl

We'll throw a healing quilt across an ever ailing world

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