

# **CLARA**

**From *Silver Belles* by Lauren Grove**

*Clara, a sweet woman in her 80s, reminisces about her first (and only) love.*

CLARA: Nick, if you want to win Kate's heart, just start small. Find out her likes and dislikes. Back when I was a girl, there was this boy... Tommy...

When Tommy was getting up the courage to ask me to go steady, he found out how much I loved yellow daisies. For the next month, I found a single daisy each day. Sometimes they were hidden in my locker at school. Sometimes they were in our mailbox at home. Once I even found one pinned to my ponytail. I don't know how he managed that! He gave me thirty daisies in all. Thirty perfect little yellow daisies. I still have them. My mother helped me press them with a book. My father thought it was silly. He said they were nothing more than weeds. But I thought they were beautiful. I fell in love with Tommy over those thirty days...

Find out what matters most to Kate, whatever it is, and then show her you care about the same things. But don't wait too long. Time's a funny thing. Just yesterday I was 17 and happily in love, and today I'm an old woman who sees Tommy's face everywhere...