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Wedding Quilts

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Myself
Logan, Utah
December 1, 2018

Title: Wedding Quilts

Genre: Material Culture

Informant: Alana Miller is 19 years old and is a student at Utah State University studying English: Technical Writing, and Communication Studies. She was born in Ogden, Utah and was primarily raised in Willard, Utah. She is the oldest of four daughters and she loves spending time working and crafting with her family. She hopes someday that she can become an editor at a publishing house and help others achieve their dreams while she gets to live hers.

Context: This was collected while in my apartment in Logan, Utah. The quilts are usually made and received in Willard, Utah, and the conversations that surround the traditions also take place in Willard. The Wedding Quilt is a longstanding tradition in the Willard 3rd Ward in Utah. A quilt is made by members of the Relief Society women's organization. Once the quilt is made, it is brought to the church service to be displayed during Relief Society. The women are asked to make donations for the quilts. These donations are not made public, but are given to members of the Relief Society Presidency. The quilt is delivered by a member of the Relief Society Presidency at the wedding reception.

Text: As long as I can remember, my ward has made quilts for the young women, at least I think it is just the young women, who had lived in the ward that were getting married. It is usually a few women who work together to get the quilt made and tied, but everyone in the Relief Society is encouraged to donate a few dollars for each quilt. Each quilt is kinda like a gift from the ward to the young couple letting them know that the ward loves them. I didn't know how long the tradition how long the tradition had been going on, but a woman in the ward said that she had received a quilt from the ward when she got married, which was around 30 years ago.

Texture: This is a tradition that I have been aware of since I was about twelve. I have attended many Relief Society meetings and the women always seem excited and supportive of the quilt tradition. The last time I heard them talk about a quilt that they were making, they briefly discussed the desire to keep this tradition going, however, material is becoming more expensive.

The tone of that particular discussion felt like it was a plea to all the women to contribute in whatever way that they can so that the tradition can stay alive.

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