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# MY FAVORITE SONGS

## *Interviews*

During the development of Maria's book, *My Favorite Songs: Maria von Trapp's Childhood Folk Songs*, it was decided that more stories and anecdotes from her life should be included in the text to help readers better understand who the real von Trapps were. So three people from Veritas Press piled into a single prop airplane and flew up to the mountains of Vermont for an overnight visit at the Trapp Family Lodge. Over two long sessions, with a tape recorder running and pads of paper in hand, Maria was interviewed. Wonderful stories were shared and many of them made it into the book.

*Every family has great stories, and it is important and a delight to record them for the future generations. Try your hand at recording some family history. Following are some questions to ask. The more questions you add to this list, the better your family history will be. After the barbeque, before your mother gets out the dessert, take out a pad of paper and pen and quiz a family member for interesting things in their history or stories from the family's collective history. There are fascinating stories in even the most ordinary lives, and all we have to do is find them and bring them to the page. Using colorful language and developing lush stories is all we need to do to keep our memories from becoming a boring history lesson. Keep in mind that what you write are like home movies: if you don't make it interesting to readers that don't know you, they most likely won't be much more interesting to those who do.*

What is your full name?

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When were you born and where?

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Where do you live, and with whom do you live?

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Why were you given the name you have?

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Have you ever had a nickname? Where did you get it?

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How would you describe your family growing up?

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Where did our family come from?

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