Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison

Mary Jemison was just ten years old when she was kidnapped by Shawnee Indians in 1750. Her father, James, a farmer, and her mother, Margaret, were also captured along with her younger sister, set and her younger brother, William. They were forced to accompany the Shawnees on their yearly raiding parties, which eventually took them west to the Ohio River Valley. After the War of 1812, they were sold to the Genesee Indians, where they lived until they were released in 1814. Mary Jemison then returned to New York, where she married a local man and had children. She died in 1838 at the age of 74.

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