**HBH IV Tandem. The Red Silk Skirt.**

Get together with a partner, fold the sheet along the vertical line and interview each other on the quotes. The bits in *italics* give you a clue as to the correct answer. Partner A starts.

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| **Partner A** | **Partner B** |
| 1. Why could Lily not stay on the farm?

*– No one asked her to and she felt out of place. Besides she did not want to go back to doing the old chores and decided to move on to Flagstaff and go to college.* | 1. Why did she take on the job in Red Lake after only one term at college?

*– Getting paid for teaching seemed a better prospect to her than paying for going to classes.* |
| 1. What does she compare her students to and what is her idea of good teaching?

*– She compares them to horses and that’s why she demands respect right from the beginning, so they know they cannot get away with anything.* | 1. What kind of test did she have to pass and why?

*Some men in Red Lake thought she would not be up to riding a (half– broke) horse. They wanted to challenge the “city girl” and “greenhorn schoolteacher”.* |
| 1. How did her riding skills influence her relationship with the people in Red Lake?

*– She had earned their respect and they came to ask for advice on problem horses as well as on problem children.* | 1. What role did Prohibition play in Red lake?

*– People regarded it as an “eastern aberration” and did not pay much attention. Saloon keepers just renamed their saloons (into) cafés and kept their liquor under the counter.* |
| 1. What did Lily come to be seen as in Red Lake?

*– She was a poker– playing, horse– breaking, horse– race winning schoolmarm.* | 1. What was her relationship with Rooster like?

*– He became her secret student learning how to read and write.* |
| 1. What was the Red Silk Shirt?

*– When racing she always wore a mail– order shirt, made from shiny red silk, which became her trademark.* | 1. During a race she fell off her horse. Explain the consequences.

*- A backfiring car had passed, Red Devil had bucked and thrown her off. But she finished the race instead of calling it a day. The judge, Jim Smith paid her his respects and offered to teach her how to drive a car.* |
| 1. What was special about Jim Smith?

*– Unlike Ted Conover, Lily’s first husband, he did not “lay down a smooth line of patter”. The son of a respected Mormon, he was honest and “no slouch”. Calm, laborious, never lost his temper.* | 1. What was the news from Hollywood?

*– Helen was pregnant by her “latest Mr. Wonderful” and was thinking about having an abortion. Lily invited her to come to Red Lake because she could not go back home.* |
| 1. How did the Catholic priest and the townspeople react to Helen’s pregnancy?

*– Father C. advised her to go to a church home for wayward women. The townspeople started to avoid Helen and her sister. The school superintendent even threatened Lily that she would lose her job if Helen did not leave.* | 1. What was Helen’s answer to her critical situation?

*– She committed suicide and as Father C. would not have her buried in the Catholic cemetery, Lily and Jim buried her on their range dressed in the red silk shirt.* |