

*At Ease: Stories I Tell to Friends*  
by Dwight D. Eisenhower

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“Those of us from the south, in Abilene’s Civil War, were less numerous than the northern tier but we like to think of ourselves as being tougher. We numbered in our membership all the farm boys who lived south of town. But encounters between the two groups rarely reached the stage of real damage. Oh, occasionally there would be brick-throwing or threatening. But this was rather lackadaisical. Now and then snowballs with cinders or small rocks packed in the center were employed and resulted in a well-blackened eye. By the time I entered high school in 1905, the rivalry had flown out of favor and I cannot recall any further difficulty of any kind. One reason might have been that the south side boasted more than our share of pretty girls—Gladys Haring, Ruby Norman, the four Curry sisters, and Winnie Williams.”