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Charm Quilt

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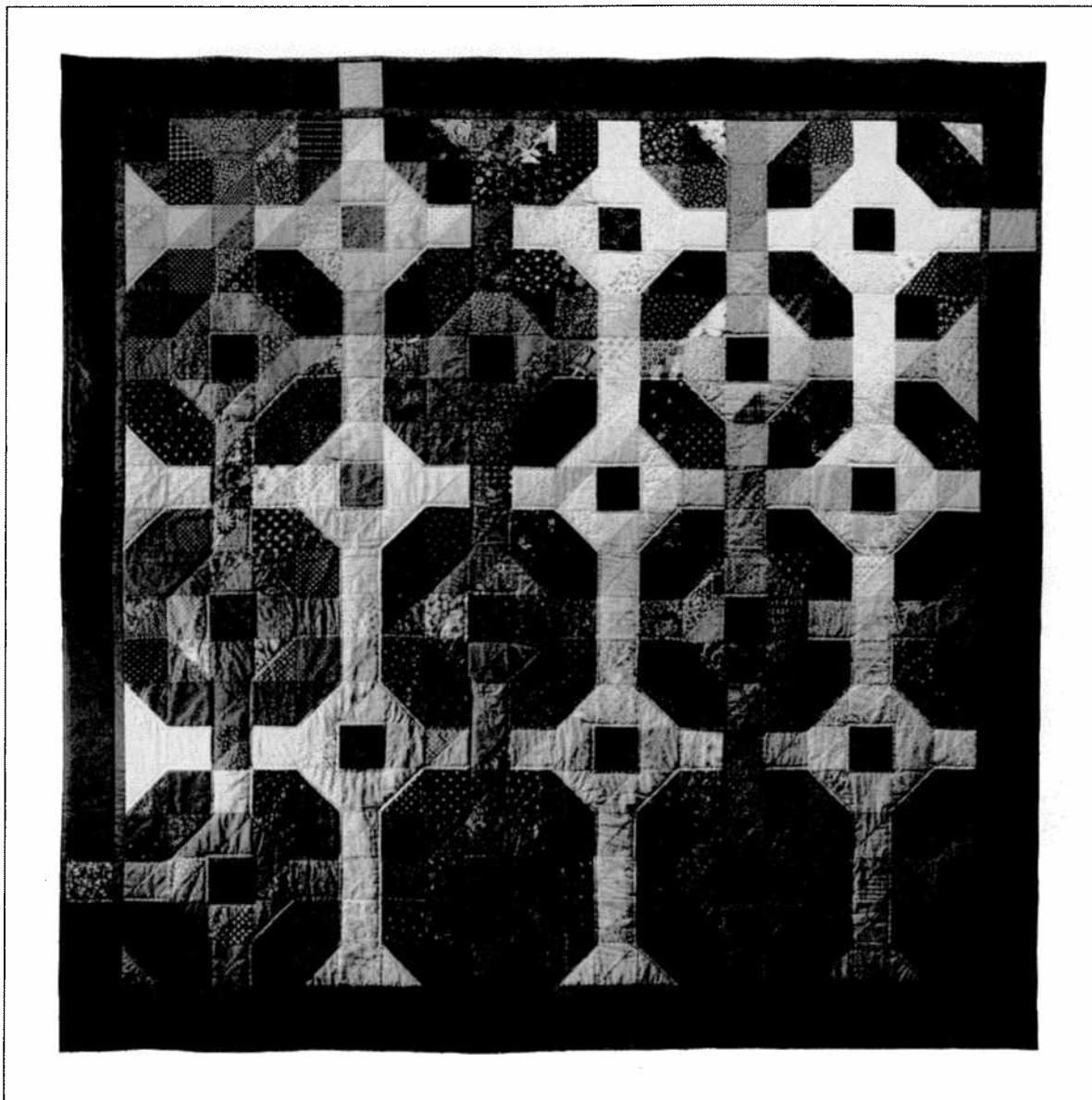
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Charm Quilt

Joanne Alberda

80" square. Machine pieced and quilted. Cotton fabrics.

Charm quilts have a long tradition. Women saved scraps for many years, trading bits of fabric with other quilters whenever possible. A charm quilt is usually based on a single shape or motif, but no fabric is ever repeated. Many of them have well over a thousand pieces. Colors were usually placed randomly.

In designing this quilt I abided by most of the rules of the traditional charm quilt. It is made up of a single unit, a triangle, and no fabric is used more than once in the design. The triangles are arranged into a pattern called the "chinese puzzle." The bright and light colors make up a sort of woven design which stands out from the darker background values, presenting an interesting optical illusion when viewed from a distance.