



Grits Grace

By Dara Harper

Paperback. Condition: New. 188 pages. EXCERPT: Since Aunt Mickie had moved to Detroit four years ago, shed sent us eighteen pictures of herself standing next to buildings tall enough to eavesdrop on clouds. Mama looked at them so often that she smudged them with her sweaty fingers and bent their corners. One day, Mama was holding one of the photos and she said, Seems like Mickie got a different smile since she left Georgia. I stood over Mamas shoulder, staring at the picture. Aunt Mickie was dressed in a white coat and even though the picture was taken from a distance, I could still see the black hole in the front of her mouth where a tooth should have been. Same Aunt Mickie. Same smile. But Mama saw something I couldnt see and she kept on looking, as if she wished for that same smile. At the train station, I wanted to ask again why we were leaving town. But I swallowed my curiosity along with some spit because children were supposed to be seen and not heard. Even though I had the body of a woman, I was still considered a child. The three of us boarded the Colored...

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