

The Move

By Rowan Shanti

Moving was hard enough on its
Own but with Pa's money problems it was
Very hard. We moved from
Iowa to
Nebraska leaving everyone, then we were
Gone.

I wish I could've said goodbye to more than just
Some of my friends. Ma told me to stay

Happy even though things were rough.
At least my family was
Right with me. Things could've been
Different. Things could've been worse.

Out in Nebraska, I couldn't stop thinking about
Una, my best friend. I never said goodbye to her. I
Regretted not doing it because now I will never be able to.

Fair shouldn't be a word. Nothing is fair
At least not to me.
My new school doesn't have any male teachers
In my grade. That's not fair. In gym, no one picked me as a partner. Not fair, but I
Let it happen. After all, I'm
Young. Who would listen to me?

I want the day to be over but we
Still have lunch. I balanced my tray on my hands as I

Stood
Awkwardly, searching
Desperately for a place to sit. I

Watched all the kids
Eating in

Happy groups
And my gut
Told me to just
Eat in the library. If

Only I had listened.
Unfortunately I didn't. I decided to sit
Right down at the table in front of me.

"New girl, what are you
Eating?
Worms?" The girl that said it laughed with all

Her friends. I
Only grumbled, held
My ground and continued
Eating.

It was not a

Happy day

At all. I went from happy,

Veered off and

Ended angry and sad.

Not mostly sad though.

Oh, no. Mostly angry. As the girls

Fired off mean

Remarks,

I felt my cheeks heating up and my fists clenching. I grabbed what I was

Eating and threw it at the mean girl,

Not caring for the consequences. On the first

Day I ended up

Sitting in the principal's office.

I wished Ma didn't ask

Why I was

Angry.

Not an intended question

To annoy me but

To hear my honest answer.

Only if I told her. But I

Can't be

Reached

Yet.

Again wishing I could go back
To Iowa.

Looking into the bathroom mirror
Exiled
And alone. I
See a lonely girl, with no friends, looking back at me,
Trying to understand her life.

I slipped out of the bathroom, brush in

Hand to find Ma
At the counter giving me a
Very
Encouraging smile.

Ma said,
"You look sad.

Friends are hard to find
And
Maybe you could look past the wall
Instead of
Letting
Yourself build onto it."

Day two of school, this time I had words of encouragement
As I walked down the halls of school,
Yet to find a friend, maybe

Two
Wondering who it might be, my doors now
Open to new ideas, possibilities

And

New changes.
Even
When it was time for lunch I

Began to search for
Empty tables with only a single
Girl or boy at them.
I finally
Noticed a girl sitting alone and sat at her table,
Nodding at her.
Instead of just nodding back at me, the
New girl
Greeted me with a smile of friendship, a smile of acceptance.

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