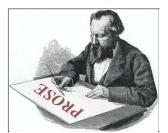
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ken*again





Some Things My Sister Left Behind

by Lockie Hunter

ne doll with a painted white face and a delicate purple fan that our father brought back from Chinatown (Exxon station bathroom, just outside of Memphis)

One yellow plaid hair ribbon with her name, Aimee, embroidered in purple script (Samuel Jackson playground, Memphis)

Two tonsils (Doctor Simmons office, Memphis)

Three Judy Bloom books (under bunk number seven, cheerleading camp, Nashville)

One retainer (boyfriend's house, Memphis)

One trophy, "Best Poetry 1976: Samuel Jackson Junior High" (bedside table, bedroom, Boston)

One 1980 Toyota Corolla, white with beige interior: totaled (Peabody Service and Towing, Memphis)

One letter from dad encouraging her to "excel in her studies and drive carefully dammit now that she is up there in Yankeeland" signed "I love you so much baby" (shoebox under bed, Boston)

Twenty five assorted love letters from seven different boys dated 1982-2006 (shoebox under bed, Boston)

Five little black dresses (hanging in closet, bedroom, Boston)

Three unpaid speeding tickets (sitting on desk under three day old Starbucks mocha latte, home office, Boston)

Two "respectable" business suits, both heather gray (hanging in closet, bedroom, Boston)

Two unfed cats sitting on the windowsill, waiting (kitchen, Boston)

Three pairs of blue jeans: two faded Levi boot cut size 7M with butt and knees missing, one Guess slim fit size four never worn (bureau, bedroom, Boston)

One unfinished memoir titled "My Life in Words" (C:drive, home office, Boston)

Four pints of blood (Massachusetts Turnpike between Boston and Cambridge)

One recipe for asparagus with pecan brown butter (recipe box, kitchen, Boston)

One 1987 VW bug, sunflower yellow with cloud white interior; totaled (Commonwealth Service and Towing, just off the Massachusetts Turnpike between Cambridge and Boston)

Nineteen detailed photo albums recording her unfinished life (knotty pine bookshelf, living room, Boston)

One antique wedding gown, circa 1948, found at garage sale (HOPE chest, foot of bed, Boston)

One sister, twenty two years old, on computer, writing, (Memphis)

One detailed "incident resulting in loss of life" form 192B filed in triplicate (Cambridge Police station, District Six Station, Cambridge)

One mother, forty nine years old, deciding between five little black dresses and two "respectable" suits to bring to funeral parlor (bedroom closet, Boston)