

A loss of roses

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Act 2

Scene 3

Kansas city

Lila is on a porch watching a mother lead her son to school.

Lila:

I remember my first day at school... Mother too me by the hand and I carried the bouquet of roses, too. Mama had let me pick the loveliest roses I could find in the garden, and the teacher thanked me for them. Then Mama Left me and I felt kinda scared, cause I'd never been any place before without her, but she told me Teacher would be mama to me at school, and would treat me as nice as she did. So I took my seat with all the other kids, their faces so strange and new to me. And I started talking to a little boy across the aisle. I din know it was against the rules. But the teacher caame back and slapped me, so hard that I cried. I ran to the door cause I wanted to run home to mama quick as I could. But the teacher grabbed me by the hand and pulled me back to my seat. And said I was too big a gilr to be running home to mama. And I had to learn to take my punishment when I broke the rules. But I still cried, I told the teacher I wanted back my roses, but she wouldn't give them to me. She shook her finger and said, when I gave away lovely presents, I couldn't expect to get the back... I guess I never learned that lesson very well, there's so many things I still want back.