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An Evening With Friends

You and he talk endlessly.
Nearly ten, the fire is embers now, the candles burnt low.

I stumble to the kitchen to wash the dinner dishes. You ask for port. My glance silences you.

Eleven, twelve, he leaves. You wonder why I do not kiss you goodnight.

Argument

I hear only shadows of voices. My mind fights against my will to separate sounds into words.

Last summer the windows were opened.

Even in intelligibility, they were senseless.

In the Morning

Spray
from rain
tapping
on the porch rail
reaches
my feet.
I stretch
and let the torrents
run
between
my
toes.

Rebecca Grabill homeschools her three children. She has been writing full-time for going on seven years. She has seen her educational materials published and used widely, and her creative nonfiction published as well, in *Parenting From the Heart* and *Main Street Rag.* Her fiction has won mid-sized awards; she's collected well over one hundred not-always-very-nice rejection letters. More about her can be found at her website, www.rebeccagrabill.com.

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