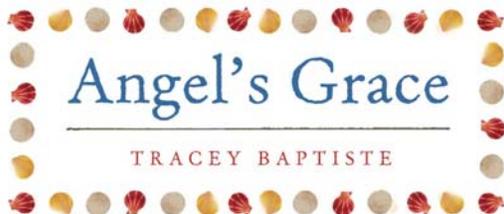
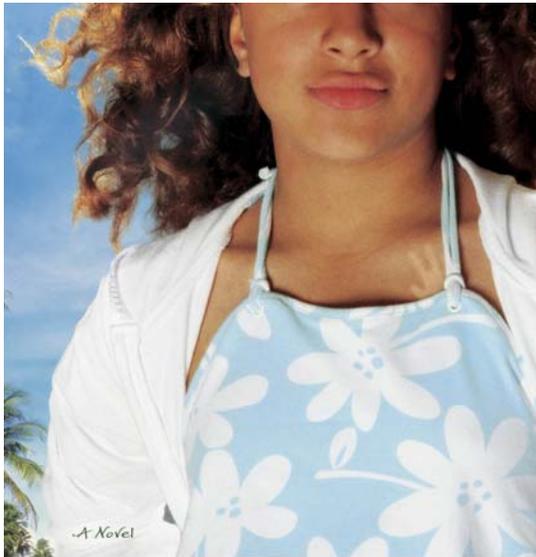


READER'S GUIDE

ANGEL'S GRACE

by Tracey Baptiste



Book Talk

Grace has always had wild red hair like no one else in her family and a birthmark on her shoulder that her mother told her was the mark of an angel. When Grace is sent from New York to spend the summer with her grandmother in Trinidad, she looks through the family album and discovers a blurred photograph of a stranger with a birthmark -- *her* birthmark -- and Grace is full of questions. No one is able to identify the man in the photo, and Grace is left with no choice but to find out who he is and what he might mean to her. What Grace does not know is that her search will lead to a discovery about herself and her family that she never could have imagined.

About the Author

Tracey Baptiste was born in Trinidad. She has been making up stories for as long as anyone in her family can remember. When she was twelve, she wrote a short novel about two friends who moved to New York. Three years later she moved with her family to Brooklyn, NY. But she goes back to Trinidad often so she can lie in the sand at Maracas Beach.



ANGEL'S GRACE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

As you read

1. At the start of the story, Grace feels uncomfortable in her surroundings. Why is this? Does her attitude change as the story continues? How do you know?
2. Have you ever had to be away from your family for a long time? How did you handle that?
3. How does Grace's relationship with Sally affect her plans for the summer?
4. What role does Raj play in Grace's plan?
5. In chapter eight Grace's leads on finding the man in the photograph come to an end. If you were Grace, what would you do to try to move forward with the search?
6. Why does Grace return the ring to her aunt?

After you read

1. What is the author's message about family?
2. What role does Ma play in Grace's search?
3. How does Grace's relationship with her father change throughout the novel?
4. How does Grace's "angel mark" affect her sense of identity at different points in the novel?
5. What does Grace mean when she says, some secrets "are sweet little things that are simply too delicious to let slip"?
6. Author Jerdine Nolen called this book "full of grace and forgiveness." Do you agree? Why?