

Learning to Walk

She had learned how to walk, but she had developed this talent just recently. She still swung a little from side to side with every new step she took, but her balance was getting better and better.

This was what she remembered later. She was walking toward a matronly figure, complete with skirt and stout shoes. She didn't see the lady's face, because what was right in front of her was what she had to pay attention to, so she could keep walking and not get off-balance. She saw the hem of the lady's skirt. The lady was at the sink, doing some cleaning up. She didn't speak to the little girl. She didn't really speak to her very much.

The little girl was standing on something she would later recognize as "linoleum". It was a little shiny, and lots of daylight was pouring into the kitchen. There was light and silence.

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April 25, 2017