

have not changed much over the past three generations (Joseph). We carry on the tradition, the legacy, the strength of our powerful Black mothers, grandmothers, and othermothers, who have passed on those skills which enable us to survive and succeed in a world that is often hostile and oppressive. May other mothers and daughters be encouraged to "carry the torch."

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MARILYN IRWIN BOYNTON

Our Daughter is Leaving Home To Go To College

We travel in my car to Huron College.
We reminisce about growing up Mary.
Telling the stories and reliving those years,
a patchwork quilt we passed back and forth.
Father and mother and daughter recalled
the family history we hold to be true.
Mary tells her own tale.
Her eyes have seen life from the inside out.
We delight, are astonished, as we hear her speak
Wonderful, bittersweet, we celebrate this day.

Our journey to college, is welcomed by signs;
Humour beckons the highway traveller.
Welcoming "frosh" to a week of ritual.
Our son John is a 2nd year student;
he shows us around his new house.
He becomes our guide, our anchor safe,
in this university town.
We leave our daughter in her own care;
We leave our son—"look after her please."

Marilyn Irwin Boynton is a psychotherapist and consultant practising in Toronto. She is co-author of the book, Goodbye Mother, Hello Woman: Reweaving the Daughter Mother Relationship. Marilyn has spoken extensively on behalf of daughters and mothers.

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