

## PERCEPTIONS . . .

### *The Assumption*

She has spent all her life in institutions. Never read a book or wrote a letter. Never went to a movie. Never had a job. The nursing home sent her here because she got sick. We'll do our best to patch her up because we believe that every life is important, no matter how miserable. If she recovers, we'll send her back to the nursing home, where she'll live out the rest of her useless days. Then she'll die.

### *The Truth*

She grew up in a family that loved her. Her parents thought of her as having much potential. College was always assumed, and she graduated with honors. Now nationally recognized, she writes books and articles, counsels individuals and groups, and travels over a large area to share her knowledge. Always popular, she surrounds herself with wonderful people whose commitment sustains her through the hard times. She lives on her own, in a home that belongs to her. She plans to get married. Life is good.

When a person cannot speak for herself,  
the assumption pulsates loudly,  
while the truth only whispers.

*Care enough to learn the truth.  
Then dare to pass it on!*