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## the grandparents

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## the grandparents

by Cole Rachel

so undisturbed they might as well have been nothing more than hillbilly salt and pepper shakers, bought probably for too much money at dogpatch usa, dollywood or any gift shop in branson, and it's as if *they* live on a shelf surrounded by theme parks represented in china plates and an enameled cedar plaque which read

if momma says no, just ask grandma i'm warmed by the idea of family hee-haw, that i could come from those who would buy their own likeness in tableware, those whose only advice for me when leaving is:

> it's really all about the right gun, or like squirrel hunting you make the wrong choice and all you have left is one front foot and a little piece of tail



Photo by Joel Kendall