## TWOFIFTH

RAYMOND MITCHELL

Two Fifth

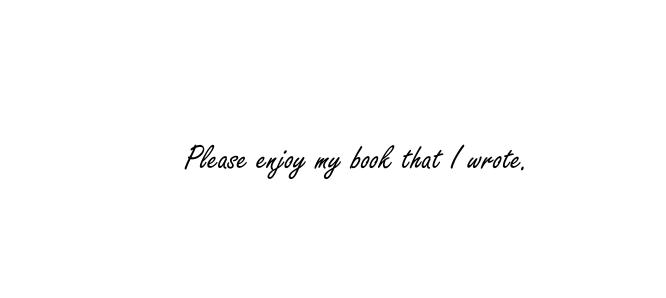
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Printed in the United States of America

First Printing, 2015
Published and Distributed by
www.projecttenement.com
Project Tenement
New York, New York
10027

This is a book with 12 fiction short stories.



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## Chapter 1

Just because I'm 6 years old and four feet doesn't mean I don't know what crack smells like or what reefer smells like. People call me Shake Ski, when I was 2 years old I use to shake when I was hungry, ski I don't know. I like to listen to Run-DMC's F-R-E-S-H, I love the song, my uncle Eli has turntables set up in the living room and that's the only record I play because that's the only record that was left on the turntables. My uncle Corey bought me a du-rag yesterday, I want a bee hive like him, uncle Corey is fly, he has all the sneakers, he plays basketball real good, he is tall, and he has the best chain I ever seen. Uncle Eli don't play, he will kill, he know how to do graffiti, all the trains you see he did it, he nice, Uncle Eli can draw anything and he can DJ better than Jam Master Jay. My mother be working, she can cook, and buys me anything I want. My mother gave me six dollars when I turned 6, I still have it, my uncle said save it until I get a million dollars, I think that's make believe money, but I will save it until I get a million. My favorite show is double dare on nickelodeon we just got cable. I

know how to write cursive, I know how to write my mother's name in cursive. My uncle's friend Fat Keith bought me a rope chain with Jesus on the cross, my mother said I can't were it to school because I might lose it. My grandfather bought me a blue shirt but I think it's for girls because the buttons are on the back I told him thank you, but I'm not wearing it to school. Every time Uncle Corey picks me up from school in his beige car he always feeds me sardines with mustard, tuna fish, or franks, we never go to McDonald's. When Uncle Eli picks me up from school he takes me to McDonald's, I always get a hamburger, Uncle Eli gets a cheeseburger, that's nasty I only eat grilled cheese. I won't put it on a hamburger. My uncles took me to Toy "R" Us and said point to everything you want Santa Clause to get you and then when Christmas came everything I wanted was under the tree. Uncle Eli bought me a black and white fur coat and Uncle Corey bought me Air Jordans. On the weekends my uncles have their girlfriends and friends over the house and I like to sit and listen to them talk it's fun plus I learn a lot because kids my age only know about cartoons, some can't even read. Uncle Eli reads to me the Malcolm X book, that's how I know how to read, my mother doesn't want me in the living room with them because she said what they talk about is not for children, I tell my mother give me five more minutes because I'm having fun just listening. My mother fell down the steps the other day we live on the third floor sometimes we take the elevator sometimes we walk. My mother had on high heels and tight jeans, I don't know why her jeans were so tight, she could barely walk in them, she fell. I was at the top of the stairs and I said I'm going to call 911, my mother said no come down here and take the elevator back up, I was holding my mother's hand and she was limping, I said I don't have to go to school right? Because you hurt yourself, my mother said you can stay home with me. My mother broke her ankle and didn't go to the hospital, my uncles called her the terminator, she just be limping, she said she will be okay, she said that's why you have to drink milk with your dinner Shake, sometimes I drink grape ginseng with my dinner like Uncle Eli. Uncle Eli drink the grape ginseng before and it had a roach in it, I told him and he said

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"Excellent book! I really felt I was there!"
- Garlic Bread Toast, Convent Avenue

"Riveting, extremely breathtaking!"
- Meatball Steak, St. Nicholas Place

"I love the 21st century and I love these brilliant short stories!"

- Poppy Peach, 5th Avenue

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