



## Always an Orphan

by Shelby Adams Lloyd

ISBN 978-1-945805-15-8

"I was an orphan then, I am an orphan now, and I will always be an orphan." For years, people have told Shelby Adams Lloyd that she should write about her life growing up in the Oxford Orphanage in Oxford, North Carolina, and how she lived and worked while learning a trade there. Shelby finally sat down at the computer and started her story of living in the orphanage. She took a deep breath as she remembered what she went through and how she overcame the rejections she has felt since being a child. *Always an Orphan* is a loving memoir of a unique childhood where family, to this day, are the orphans Shelby grew up with, and home is the orphanage she looks back upon with pride and love.

### From the Author

*Always An Orphan* is about my life when my grandfather decided he didn't want my sister and me because my grandmother had died. He was a wealthy farmer and thought we would be better at Oxford Orphanage in Oxford, North Carolina since he was a Mason. We knew no one and he didn't tell us where we were going and what his plans were when we arrived at a big house. We felt unloved because he had left us with strangers. While living in the orphanage I found what the word Love meant. I now have hundreds of orphan brothers and sisters. When I go home each year for our annual homecoming I want to run throughout the front lawn and tell God that I am so thankful I can call the orphanage my home.

### Discussion Questions

1. You see the girls as victims of circumstance and loss. What are your feelings about these two girls?
2. While in the car with your Papa would you want to know where you were going?
3. Would you be scared if you were molested by the man who was in charge of the shoe shop?
4. What are the primary struggles does the writer go through when she first arrives at a house with 25 girls her age?
5. Were you sympathetic with her? How did the writer move through the novel and what were her main motivations?
6. What is your favorite relationship she formed while living in the orphanage?
7. Would you run away, walk the dark night with two other girls, and not know where you are going?

### About the Author

Shelby Adams Lloyd retired to Southport, North Carolina in 1999 with her husband, Donald. They has three children and six grandchildren. Loving to read, she started writing at the age of sixty-four. Shelby is active in her church and enjoys cooking especially gourmet recipes she gets from The Food Network and Cook, Inc. You can find her most days at the computer where she is working on a new manuscript or crocheting more sweaters.