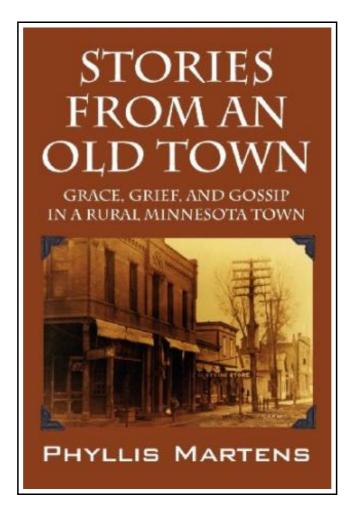
### Stories from an Old Town: Grace, Grief, and Gossip in a Rural Minnesota Town



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# STORIES FROM AN OLD TOWN: GRACE, GRIEF, AND GOSSIP IN A RURAL MINNESOTA TOWN



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Outskirts Press, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 226 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. This sturdy 1930s town, surrounded by the cornfields of southern Minnesota, is home to German-speaking immigrants, hard-working farmers who make sure their town functions properly: it has a hospital, post office, schools, stores, churches, grain elevators. A town to be proud of. But during the course of small-town daily life, startling events take place. A young girl engaged to a missionary is tricked into a disastrous marriage with another man. The Jungas hardware store burns to the ground. Church burial is denied to a suicide. Then there is the struggle between the rigidly conservative and more liberal church groups, each sure of its ground and intolerant of the other. Caught in the middle are those struggling to understand. Tante Lieze, a central character, ponders God s perplexing intentions, beginning with her own troublesome situation. Her faith that something good will come of it all is shaken by what she learns about the birth of her deformed child. Forgiveness, she finds, is not easy. What grace means is left to another woman, Grace Krahn, to define. Still, the town holds together. People know each other, wander in and out of each other s stories. They rally to the support of folks in trouble, the lowly converse (probably in Low German) with the respected, all gather in the park for town events. Windamer survives, has survived to this day. Excerpt: Hard times had come upon Tante Lieze Gunter. As if your other troubles weren t enough, the women told her in Stoesz s General Store, standing between the counters in their square heavy coats and woolen head shawls. The pleasant odor of coffee, pinewood flooring, and new cloth hung...

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