

Flyin West

Sophie: I'm writing my speech for Sunday. I'm going to single-handedly convinced these Negroes they have the right to protect the land from speculators and save Nicodemus! Save it from being just one more place where colored people couldn't figure out how to be free. Come look at this. These are the plans for Nicodemus. Here's the store and the post office - in the same places but bigger. And open every day not just two days a week. Here is the blacksmith and the school. We won the school open by spring but the teacher we hired just wrote to say she won't come because she's getting married in her food husband...I want this town to be a place where a colored women can be free to live her life like a human being. I want this town to be a place where a colored man can work as hard for himself as we used to work for white folks. I want this town to be a place where a colored child can go to anybody's door and be treated like they belong there. It's not a paradise yet, but it can be beautiful. The century is going to change in two years. This can be a great time for colored people. We can really be free instead of spending our lives working for the same people who used to own us. How are we ever going to be free if we have to spend all of our time doing somebody else's laundry?