

PHONIES

They would deny it
to the last breath
but I know that Clarene and
Alta Mae
are ashamed of
their old uncle
Why would they send him
to Raley's house
to play dominoes all day
every time that skinny
lockjawed
optometrist comes to visit
After all
Uncle Wiley raised them
put ham and blackeyed
peas
in their stomachs when
their parents died of flu
in 1918