

CRYSTAL SENTER-BROWN**THE LUCKIEST GIRL ON EARTH**

he stops to tie the
strings of her pink reebok's with
light-up heels/ as she

notices me, she squeals
I am this many holding
up one thumb two

fingers. They come here
every Friday for
ice cream, something

he has always done
with each of his three daughters
as soon as they learn

to walk. Trying to
focus on her shoes she talks
and talks, pointing to

the sky, then the tree
she says see that bird? He knows
me! Her father, the

ever-serious
one, all buttoned up, tied
and pristine, begins

to smile widely. He
knows her sunshine is too bright
to dim and she is

good for him. As they
walk away, she begins to
skip, heels lit and

flickering. Her braids
swinging, walking with daddy,
she is the luckiest girl on earth.