



THE AUTHOR LIVES IN TEXAS, USA. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SERGEI DIDOK/ISTOCK/THINKSTOCK

# BECOMING CLEAN

**By Marsha Ault**

*Soiled hands. Clinging grime and dirt embedded beneath my nails. I turn on the faucet, reach for soap, and scrub, and scrub. Frothy suds drip.*

*I rinse, lather again. With a small brush I cleanse the muck beneath my nails until the water runs clear, down, down the drain.*

*How good it feels to be clean.*