

## Laid Off, As In

When you get home from the job office  
where you met with a guy who clearly  
disliked his position you'd be glad to fill --

you leave the mail in the box knowing  
it'll be mostly bills you're trying to pay off  
before their tone changes to threats  
about penalties and collection agencies

the kids are shooting each other because their  
grandma lets them watch bad TV shows and eat  
junk food instead of healthier stuff you'll prepare  
since your wife's working the 3 to 11 shift so  
at least you can pay the essentials like rent

you'd enjoy a couple of beers but that's a luxury  
like a night out with the guys maybe a decent  
set of tires for the car or finding time to  
reconnect with your wife which hasn't occurred  
since she went full-time after you got laid off

the house is hotter than hell but you can't afford  
the AC so you go room to room shutting off  
lights the kids always leave on and putting fans  
in windows to get the kids settled in front of  
a decent TV show while you start dinner

you make pancakes and apples slices for the kids  
and ask about their day though they won't ask  
how yours was since your face already shows it  
but you remind them to be nicer to their grandma  
whose help they need till school starts and yes, yes,  
you'll buy school supplies, don't worry,  
don't worry

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