

Ode to Neighbors

by Jimmy Sarbanes, Grade 8
Midtown Academy
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each one with their own stories
from single adults to brothers and sisters
Emanuel and Kevin ripping down the racetrack
on big wheels too big for them
Mr. Jeff sitting on the porch as if time has stopped

the kids wait to see if Ms. Robin is coming out today
when she approaches the 4-square boxes
the kids are leaves in the wind
they can't help but quiver
when she steps into the ring
the birds stop singing

the neighbors are who make one feel at home
even when they are unreasonable
they manage to make you laugh
like when Mr. Jeff cut down a 50-year-old maple
because it was making leaves
or when Mr. Fletcher moaned over his loved one
the green Charger
it had a speck of dust on it



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Words on WHEELS

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