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## Walking Home from School

William Powley

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# Walking Home from School

Cold black asphalt  
hits each step  
as I stretch upward,  
away from sunset  
to mountains alternating  
shadows and light  
among pines.

Each day the same,  
or part of one long day  
leading home above  
the Salt Lake Temple.  
It's late.

From our chimney rises  
a streak of gray smoke,  
a string from which our home  
suspends in darkness.

My mother moves rhythmically  
against the blurred window  
in our kitchen,  
baking wheat bread.

Her hand reaching up,  
wiping away steam,  
frees light from the window,  
to speak again  
in our street.

—William Powley