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Coming In

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COMING IN

You see me. Here
by the dishes. Hands
warm in water to a
knife
that spreads thick jam by 8.

My pockets are full of children
going down for pennies in
the afternoon. Their hats are red
with a dusty band,
their knees at 5 o'clock.

Walls turn old behind
the sink and hold my crazy
eyes that only shake
a board or two
a day.

Outside you
throw up hands of dirt
and leave a flower for every plate
that passes to the rack, for a day
when we could fail, coming in
to feel the dirty
dishes on our tongues.