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## Prisoners Exercising

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**PRISONERS EXERCISING**

*after Vincent van Gogh*

The windows, they  
are so far up and only  
four bricks tall they just  
flirt. And nobody  
has to clean them nobody  
ever could.

We make circles, one  
step, one step, and our  
hands beside us or  
in pockets or holding  
our backs because  
why not. Faded green and  
shadows, moving because  
they have to. We all  
have to. And again and  
slow and deep into our  
tread, slick from  
seeping and cold.

They watch us, the  
*gendarmes*, to be sure  
all is well, and  
they talk low, their  
moustaches barely moving their  
pant legs barely  
creased and  
they are right they are free.