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Snarl

Suzanne Wielgos
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Snarl

Suzanne Wielgos

She stomps over to the sidelines
Stalking and pacing
Flushed and red-faced
satin Nascar jacket flapping.
One hand clutches a Big Gulp
the other claws a cigarette
Her volcanic fury spews forth
on the 50 yard line.
“Kill him!” she shrieks.
“Kill him!” she snarls.
Gulp, inhale, bark orders.
Squinting at the action on the field,
other parents take note
and join her explosive wrath,
screeching commands to their boys.
Players encircle him
like a pack,
ready to pounce
and go not for the sack
but go for the kill.
Watching,
I drown in panic

This is a game
and the boy who is a target,
the boy who is prey,
flesh of my flesh,
is my son.