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Mr. Jones

Chelsey Boutan
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Mr. Jones

Chelsey Boutan

an old, peculiar man
made parents curious
made children anxious
never came out of his sealed shell
'til...

a knock
a door flung open
a gust of smoke-infested air
shot out

glaring eyes, harsh voice
“What do you want?”
two pitiful children meekly saying
“Mr. Jones...
could you open your gate;
the soccer ball went into your yard.”

no response
huffs and puffs
coughs
lights a cigarette
slams door shut behind him

opens gate and gingerly gives ball
to the two children. He was back in his house
before dumbfounded children could even say,
“Thank you Mr. Jones.”