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## Reed at Four

Alison Royen  
*College of DuPage*

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## BOOKMARKS

*Jane Scoville*

My suburban friends  
Are as temporary as bookmarks —

Placed here for only a short while,  
Always ready to be pulled out,

Waiting for advancement,  
Relocation.

I've learned to not  
Mark my place by them . . .

## REED AT FOUR

*Alison Royen*

BOOM! pad, pad, pad,  
like a heart starting  
to beat, all thirty six  
inches of sleepy wandering  
hits the sheets and  
crawls to the pillows,  
plasters his father's  
face with kisses and  
murmurings of "Iloveyou . . .  
loveyou love you . . .",  
finds a warm spot underneath  
my chin, squirms his way  
in and sighs his contentment,  
falling asleep before "Hi  
mommy . . ." finds its way to his  
smiling lips.