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## Ovaltine Factory, 1917 - 1985

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## ***OVALTINE FACTORY, 1917-1985***

My childhood was a smell  
of Ovaltine. A sharp noon whistle.

Walking to school, I neared  
the factory, two blocks away.  
After closing it grew decrepit,  
windows busted, Satanic rituals  
held while we slept  
our suburban sleep.

Some say it's haunted —  
now Ovaltine Courts. Condos.

My teachers are all dead,  
some of my classmates. We had  
Ovaltine in common, its big brick arms  
holding the town together  
as much as it could. Before  
a wintery silence crept in  
with spray-painted graffiti.

***- Kenneth Pobo***