After A Rain

The earth smells of rain. Sweet, fresh, And clean. The children find the puddles— Into the mud, sweet and fresh, And dirty. The rain has passed And the scent pulls them out. Their cries and yells start slowly; They find the new earth and rejoice, Louder, longer. The chalk marks are washed away Leaving puddles for bikes to ride through And trees that drip-dry Above the children's heads. The flowers and trees color the grayness, Dotting the sky and dripping Into the puddles that reflect the passing clouds.

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