

WACO

She was born with the Texas dust
under her fingernails; Daddy always carried
bottle of sour mash in one hand
leather belt in the other; Mama waited
patiently at night by
the window reading Gideon's and
whispering softly.

Married right out of school to Bill she bore
four children one miscarried; yellowing
yearbook pages a collapsing figure that's
all she wore as Bill
hit the bottle and became
Daddy. And she was Mama.

And then they met the Savior and His
Church.

Yes He showed them the way yes He
forgave them their sins and taught about how
they will serve Him and the
sacrifices they must make
to be saved and join him in Heaven after
the soon-coming Armageddon.

Something about that Texas dust settles
deep into the blood of animals and
starts a storm.

Listen.

Listen.

(A storm is at the back door.)

Nathan Houston