

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