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Summer in a Southern City

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TOM WILLIAMS}{SUMMER IN A SOUTHERN CITY

*It's nice stepping outside
To the sound of sirens,
Sometimes, when the summer
Air has shifted a few seasons
To spring planetary dust
To gather before a normal mirage
Of marigold's making sun-split sutras
To the wind--In back alleys
Between boards
And cars parked eternally.*

CHRISTOPHER ROBLEY}{EPIPHANY

*The entire Christian Narrative
out in front of me on the board,
illustrating to the class
a critic's course for interpreting King Lear.*

*Creation- Lucifer's fall- Man's fall- Christ-
Salvation- Judgement- Eternity...*

*My eyes move right, along the line.
I thought of:*

*Sunday school at age six- Vacation Bible School at nine-
believer's baptism at twelve- bible study Monday nights...*

*A cough came from the back of the room.
The church bells rang noon from the chapel.
A chalk eraser moved across the chronology,
first clouding it,
then gone.*

