

friday evening

four hot dogs two fries two sodas
medium-sized portions mediocre food

ricky and marla huddled in the corner
ruthie and joey in paint-stained pants

hyped-on-sugar toddlers in the aisles
hours-way-past exhausted offspring

wizened black man in torn overalls
old man's slippers lady's painted face

extended families expanded waistlines
four hot dogs two fries two sodas

family special

sixteen ninety-five plus tax
manna from fast-food heaven

whispering sweet everythings
gossiping over their rug rats

careening zooming whooping
squabbling squalling screaming

pushing his lady's wheelchair
nibbling their weekly diversion

stretched-to-the-bone budgets
sixteen ninety-five plus tax