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