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PAINT BY NUMBERS

Barbara Slaga

Love lingering through purple playgrounds
Two figures enjoying the seesaw
Red slides
Gold sandboxes
Black swings
Always a gray fence
They roam and play

Ascending towards the sun
Seducing the clouds
to pour pitchers of transparencies
Wear all the watercolors
Mix them together
with the crescent moon
Use it as a boomerang
to snag the sky

A blanket that falls over the mess they have made

A man should have the exclusive right to name his daughters, and a wife her sons, so that, at maturity, offsprings' prospective betrothed may have good genealogical data by which to measure the probable state(s) of their future(s). In this wisdom, most girls would be named Xanthippe, and most boys, Attila.

Robert Ramsay