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Graveyard

David Baker

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David Baker

Graveyard

Heat in the short field and dust scuffed up, glare off the guard tower glass where the three pickets lean on their guns. The score is one to one. Everybody's nervous but the inmates, who joke around—they jostle, they hassle the team of boys in trouble and their dads. It's all in sport. The warden is the ump. The flat bleachers are dotted with guards; no one can recall the last time they got one over the wall. The cons play hard, but lose. So the warden springs for drinks all around—something he calls *graveyard*, which is five kinds of soda pop poured over ice into each one's cup, until the cup overflows.