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Before We Could Build

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“Before We Could Build”

Two crows on the telephone wire line
 black-eyed and sassy.
We are squinting at the sun
 waiting for relief of the
 ice cream man
 and banana scooter pies
knees holding chins
 skinny elbows playing
 hide and seek
 with sweater holes.
We live in the real world
 everyday after school
 at Gard’s market.
I best friend myself to you
 by chewing on your
 wet watermelon Bub’s Daddy gum
And you climb the Jenkins fence
 to touch the one-eyed dog
 a sign of everlasting trust.
We skip school on spelling test days
 and win the three legged race
 at the sixth grade track meet.
Your liver brown summer skin
 pulls you through the chlorine
 faster than mine ever could
But in kickball
 I am the champ.