After A Rain

The earth smells of rain. Sweet, fresh, And clean. The children find the puddles-Into the mud, sweet and fresh, And dirty. The rain has passed And the scent pulls them out. Their cries and yells start slowly; They find the new earth and rejoice, Louder, longer. The chalk marks are washed away Leaving puddles for bikes to ride through And trees that drip-dry Above the children's heads. The flowers and trees color the grayness, Dotting the sky and dripping Into the puddles that reflect the passing clouds.

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