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The Prosperity Trap

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The Prosperity Trap

R.S. Petranek

You minutely adjust
Your heated leather seats
and the scent of power
Flows thru the vents
as you drive your Tanks
to the Supermarkets

And you can see it on the road
in the eyes of your opponents,
and in their posturing,
and in their bumper stickers-
declaring their philosophies and politics
or piously pushing their religions
to all of the misguided
who believe Anything Else
from the backends of
their forty-thousand-dollar cars

answers are easy
when there's no time
for you to ask any questions

and tolerance is just a word
as we partake
in the gradual Coarsening of America

We're living the last great paradox-
Land of the greed, home of the slaves.