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## ***Soccer Mom***

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*Soccer Mom*

courtyard, braking at the front steps. Henri is waiting for me. He opens the carriage door and lifts me down into his arms, kissing me. That same kiss once wakened me from a death-like slumber.

He studies me in the light from the lantern, and I tilt my head and grin. We begin to laugh, then race the steps two at a time, arm in arm.

THE END

## Soccer Mom

by

Kate Reilly

She laces cleats,  
serves oranges,  
their skin forgotten  
clocks that never got  
around to change  
after midnight,  
and watches the slipper  
shatter before the carriage.  
Unbelievably, the pumpkin  
returns undefeated.