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## Driven to Distraction

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# Driven to Distraction

by Jane McClellan

That snaggle-bald, gray-haired  
toad of a driver, one arm propped  
out the window of his rusted  
pickup, flicking the ash off  
his cigarette and looking everywhere  
but straight ahead, can't be doing  
more than 30 in this 55 mph zone.  
He's slack as a back-alley hound  
nosing for garbage, slow as payday—

hard to believe he was ever young  
with a waxed and detailed pickup  
high-assed on oversized tires,  
a shock of sideburned hair, 20-20  
eyes focused dead ahead as he fintailed  
between lanes, going 55 in a 30 mph zone,  
blowing dust off hoods and trunks  
as long as the fuzz buster held  
its peace. More sense than a pup,  
but a brain that must have grown  
down instead of up.

