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THE SANDBURRS

by Del Cain

Like sandburrs they came Catching rides Any way they could. Sticking in the sand With the buffalo grass They hold the land, Ancestors of the men On counter stools In auction barn cafes And the worn women who visit Holding the handles of Shopping carts In the summer cold Of grocery aisles. Sandburrs still who stick In the sand To the land Not hoed out by Hail or heat, Norther or drought, Facing the cyclone And the dust devil With the same failure to fear, Who persevere To hold the land To root in the sand And green the spring And bring blood From the unwary Who think to pluck The sandburr from the sand.