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Dusk Rising

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Dusk Rising

by John Graves Morris

You say All I want
Is a steady job, time off,
& a strong relationship
With a woman. Sitting
At your favorite bar,
We stare at our beer. You hate
This college town
You live in, the haze swirling
Off the river as dusk rises.
Your current woman,
My life in this town,
Is ten years younger,
A former student who is
Everything I want a woman
To be, but she's not bookish.
She's great in bed, cooks,
& takes care of you, but she
Can't keep up with your mind
Prowling in the car
That is starting to rust
After the past five winters.
You bluster at the slower traffic,
Eyes constantly appraising.
Waiting impatiently at a stoplight,
You stare at two 15-year-old girls
In skimpy shorts & torn-off t-shirts,
Imagine red weather
As quick thighs jog by,
And shake your head:

Some day they'll come
To take me away.