

1983

1951

Terry Savoie

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1951 · *Terry Savoie*

During Eisenhower's first campaign  
march toward the Presidency,  
a heat wave worked some overtime  
in the Chrysler Plant  
leaving welders on salt tablet diets  
and benching foundry men  
along a First Aid Station wall  
for the nurses to work over.

Back home, in front of the row houses,  
grass-patches browned out and  
in the bedrooms their women wouldn't  
cooperate, not once,  
so that going to bed was like  
getting up, no difference.  
It was behind one of these houses, behind

the back yard and a one car  
garage, in the smelly alley on  
an afternoon in that August,  
that a boy led a small girl to give her  
half a Hershey Bar  
if she took down her panties and  
hiked up her dress.

And he looked and looked  
all the while the brown melting  
sticky to fingers and around her mouth.  
He unzipped, reaching in to  
show her. She looked and looked,  
holding out her chocolated  
hand toward him in this  
Eden, this Eden of their lives.