

we couldn't just quit  
we were on display  
& then this beautiful gym teacher appeared  
walked over & introduced herself  
& the girls were really giggling now  
& I didn't have enough breath  
to talk to her  
but that wasn't necessary anyway  
& she was the director of phys. ed.  
& were we there for any particular reason?  
& you couldn't play basketball  
during school hours  
without administrative permission  
& administrative permission was never given  
during school hours  
& it looked like we'd have to leave  
which is what we started to do  
as they lined up to go back inside  
& the boys kept breaking ranks &  
running over & stealing the ball  
then driving in for layups  
while the girls cheered  
& the gym teacher fidgeted & stared  
& waited for us to  
make our exit.

#### Jehovah's Witness

two of them in front of  
Woolworth's  
hawking watchtowers  
standing & smiling  
like mannikins.

one of them  
just plain ugly  
ugly like  
an unmarried aunt.

the other beautiful  
wearing her Woolworth smile  
like a chastity belt

trembling when a man  
approaches

avoiding his eyes.