

& then sooner or later  
you might get up & make some  
coffee or something  
but you're still always hungry  
& hunger is always  
a reminder that everyone  
& everything is unsatisfied

so be it you might say  
but you know don't you  
that you're only beautiful  
by association?

& you know don't you  
that it doesn't matter how many  
poems you write because the  
beautiful people are all busy  
being beautiful & so naturally

they're too busy  
making love to read about  
the lack thereof.

—Erik Campbell

Bellevue, NE

W. C. WILLIAMS

He loved  
driving through the streets of  
Rutherford, New Jersey,

in the early morning hours  
and smiling at the young house-  
wives standing in their doorways

in flimsy nightgowns.  
It was almost like eating those  
plums he'd stolen from the icebox.

—Gene Mahoney

Vineyard Haven, MA