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## Birthday Presents

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*John McKernan*

## Birthday Presents

Buddy Holly confirmed me At least twice

Huge spools of air and vast tubes of sunlight

Abandoned by their owners on many golf courses

Mean girls with soft lips to help me learn silence

I learned Morse code from Babe Ruth

It could have been the Buddha talking from a vodka bottle

Floating in the Saddle Creek mescaline ditch

I made my first confession to Santa Claus

Superman baptized me Probably in a gravel quarry

Daniel Boone kept sending smoke signals saying

*Hunger I highly recommend more hunger*

And the cold bones of that skinny kid one winter

Lying in a sleeping bag on a cot in Zero Forest

Boy Scout winter blizzard Omaha weekend campout

Staring across a wide field of snow with crows

Ice cracking into the shape of a green canvas tent

I didn't move until I was starving    Starving