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Killing Time

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Roberts: Killing Time

KILLING TIME

Andrew Michael Roberts

I suck a toothpick in the car outside someone's house, idling under an oak, loading and unloading my gun. Noticing things. A bicycle on its side in a driveway with jokers in its spokes. A bird with a broken leg. Leaning against another bird. Chimneys. A gas tank hatch duct taped shut. Most people never kill anybody on purpose. Most of us want the boat unrocked. Love. Who wonders how many deaths he's caused and never known it? We make choices. Sink. Swim. Paper. Plastic. This is not my street. These are not my people. A bullet, another bullet. Nothing's right. Nothing's wrong.