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President's Day

Jared Walls

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Walls: President's Day

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Jared Walls

Over the television recall of lucha libre masks,
his roommate walks into the living room,
wearing nothing but briefs and asks, "Are we in school
on President's Day?" The roommate lets out a belch,
his throat open like a flue.

Pinned to the table by a Wonder Woman coffee mug,
is the murder mystery novel he's been working on
for three semesters now. In it, the killer/protagonist is a poet
who bludgeons other poets to death with their own manuscripts.

At this moment, during a contemplation of murder,
he recalls his sister smacking his mouth after he said
she looked like the cheerleaders in that Nirvana video.
He was glad she squinted all the time, because she had eyes like planets.