

Dipshit Nation

Seth Brady Tucker

These assholes don't even try to fake jog
across the intersection, their heads down
& attuned to important things
like being liked on Facebook; they
abandon shopping carts
anywhere they want,
sideways if need be, in
an alley or scraped up on a car

& I'm the asshole

because I like to kick
those carts down the aisle
until they go bang & crunch
into the stack of ho-hos.

You should see their faces.

They are assholes
because they only give their spare change

to beggars who seem like
they probably won't buy drugs
or alcohol with it, & they manage
to bring up this woeful charity
in conversation.

They go to church

but don't read the books,
they hate the arabs & the jews
& the blacks
& the mexicans & the french
even though they have never met
any of them,

they call croissants "crescents"

because France dared to challenge their wars,
they don't use turn signals, they play team sports
as individuals, they slow down when tailgated,
speed up when passed, they think
only of what they will say next
when part of a conversation, they blame

teachers for their own stupidity & laziness,

they blame parents for loving them

too much, they ride their bicycles with

earbuds turned up loud, because hey,

they are Americans, & are certain

that they are the only ones

who matter in this whole stupid world.

Seth Brady Tucker is executive director of the Longleaf Writers' Conference @ Seaside, Florida, and he teaches creative writing at the Lighthouse and at the Colorado School of Mines near Denver. He is senior prose editor for the *Tupelo Quarterly Review* and recent work appears in *Litmag*, *Birmingham Poetry Review*, *Copper Nickel*, and others.