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Kids

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Kids

invade on Mother's
Day. Muted chatter
spills into a cavalcade.
Sneakers whisper
on tiled floors between
rows of doors. Halls
echo a defunct
school with no desks,
only nurses, rooms
and rumpled beds, herded
by middle-aged adults,
their duty to hold
their breath, to avoid
the evil smell
that might infect
their own waning youth.

-Richard Dinges, Jr.
Walton, NE