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One Adult, Two Kids

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D.J. KING

One Adult, Two Kids

“We don’t have to tell Mom about this.”
Leave right after school
Quick stop at the bank
Maybe the drugstore
For candy that’s cheap
“Let’s go. We can make the matinee.”
Wait in line with Dad
One adult, two kids.
The lobby is dim
The carpet is worn
“Two cokes, a sprite and a large popcorn.”
Butter salt butter
Squeaky soda lids
Delight in the dark
With Dad and with Dean
“Kiddos, you can get your candy now.”
We can hear his smile
Snickers and Twizzlers
Rectangle of light
Coming Attractions
“Wow! Fantastic movies this summer!”
Star Wars. The Jungle Book
Anticipation
Dad laughs; we laugh too.
One adult, two kids.

“Hi, my daughter has an appointment.”
Pick up my son too
Must have both Kiddos
Hit the ATM
Publix for candy
“Come on. We can make the early show.”
Tickets from machines
For my girl, my boy
Coming Attractions
The Grinch. The Matrix.
“Danny, pass the drink to Naomi.”
Screens are not as big.
But, now cup holders
Stadium seating, still
Delight in the dark
“Your Grandpa Dennis loves the movies”
Can they hear my smile?
Anticipation
Will they remember?
Will they take their kids?
“Your friends are just getting out of school”
Our escape. We take
Time. Time together.
I laugh; they laugh too.
One adult, two kids