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## The Way Summers Used To Be

Jhon Abott

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# The Way Summers Used To Be

All that cassette tape  
unwound, cast aside on  
sidewalks and train  
tracks we walk on summer  
days with nothing to do  
but shield our eyes from  
the reflected light and  
continue to look for  
the bottles and pop cans  
that would buy us candy  
or baseball cards.

Sometimes we'd find  
a cassette relatively untouched  
and we would rip out  
the tape, string it along  
behind us as we walked  
as if it would never  
run out, as if the summer  
days would never end  
and the sight of these  
discarded items would always  
be as common as the heat  
of the midday sun.

## About John Abott

John Abbott is a writer, musician, and English instructor who lives with his wife and daughter in Kalamazoo, Michigan. His poems and stories have appeared or are forthcoming in The Potomac Review, Georgetown Review, Midwestern Gothic, Arcadia, Underground Voices, Atticus Review, upstreet, Tipton Poetry Journal, and many others. He recently completed his first book of poems. For more information about his writing, please visit [johnabbottauthor.com](http://johnabbottauthor.com).