

Robbie Gamble

Tioga County, PA

Roadkill: deer carnage
everywhere, a half-skinned badger
skeleton, canines askew.

At the Burnin' Barrel Bar
big ballcapped men push back
on stools with surgically repaired knees,

licking their chops
at the new bigscreen crop
of pro fantasy rookies.

Bridge construction on siesta,
the transports sigh
and heave on the gravel lot outside.

Behind the bar
a bank of bourbons flanked
by Stars and Bars, and a Terrible Towel.

North out of town toward the New York line
a parish billboard says: Don't wait
for six strong men to carry you into church.

Robbie Gamble has work out with *The American Journal of Poetry*, *Naugatuck River Review*, *Wilderness House Literary Review*, *Soul-Lit*, and *Poet Lore*. He works as a nurse practitioner caring for homeless people in Boston, MA.