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Holy War

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Fat dew drops sit like
Arrogant Buddhas on my
Hood.

They quiver and stare at me
Contemptuously as I get in
And start the engine.

The needle on the speedometer climbs,
And the Buddhas smash
Into each other, forming
Bigger and bigger Buddhas.

They jostle, holding back and
Gathering strength,
Preparing for the assault
As the needle continues to climb.

As the needle reaches sixty,
The horde of Buddhas comes rushing at me
In all their fury, smashing,
Splashing, sending me into a vortex
Of smeared vision.

We struggle, the Buddhas and I to see.
They jiggle and grope over the glass,
And suddenly their line breaks and they're
Scattered into nothingness, leaving my
Hood and windshield littered with
Dot-like corpses.

Richard D. Reitsma