

# AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY

A FREE COLUMN FOR NEWSPAPERS BY TED KOOSER, POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES, 2004-2006  
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## American Life in Poetry: Column 137

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

Dill pickles with strawberry jam? Pregnant women are known to go for late night meals like that. And the senses can go haywire. Here Jessy Randall, of Colorado Springs, gives us a look at one such woman.

### Superhero Pregnant Woman

Her sense of smell is ten times stronger.  
And so her husband smells funny;  
she rolls away from him in the bed.  
She even smells funny to herself,  
but cannot roll away from that.

Why couldn't she get a more useful superpower?  
Like the ability to turn invisible, or fly?

The refrigerator laughs at her from its dark corner,  
knowing she will have to open it some time  
and surrender to its villainous odors.

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