

The Construction Meeting

As I enter the trailer
The laughter and joking are hushed,
Like a teacher walking into a chaotic classroom
Mismatched chairs circle a folding table
The floor is covered with a grime from construction boots
A schedule with colored lines is pinned on the paneled wall
I choose the seat at the end of the table
Papers are passed around,
Logs of requests for information and material submittals
Familiar words are used,
The same topics we cover every week
Man #1 curses,
Then looks at me and apologizes
Man #2 states a problem,
With my quiet voice I offer a solution
Bald man wearing a tie announces, "That won't work!"
The men all nod in solidarity
Other ideas are offered
Man in plaid shirt declares his solution will work
The men all nod in solidarity
It is the same solution I offered