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Saxon Math 65

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Saxon Math 65

The mute acrobatics
of an idle-fingered pencil,
itchy kneecaps bobbing
under kitchen table.

I etch another
fresh border
'round encircled numbers
one through twenty-five,
odds, on a
triple-holed
college-ruled
cell of notepaper.

The textbook page
demands my aid
resolving the age
 of Ike, older brother to Gretchen,
 who is five years younger than Kurt,
 who is twelve and Rondo's twin;
to Rondo I bestow
a shaded graphite load
in both his pompous O's.