

The Redneck Nerd **(a chip off the old block)** **by Walter Lane**

The hillbilly poet's grandson
played football.
The poet said after school detentions,
honor roll status was o.k.
to blame on an old granddad, but
football was only o.k. because
of the drug test required
of players
like his "little" nerd.

When in the convenience store,
the hillbilly poet made a comment
about his little redneck nerd,
a red faced critic stood up
lip quivering.
As quickly as his hand went up
to a teacher's algebra question,
the redneck nerd stepped
between the critic preparing
to lay hands on the poet.

Quietly, he said,
"He's mine. I understand."

The hillbilly poet had learned
the advantage of raising
a football player.