

Trending Right

M.A. Schaffner

Cellophane wrapped, my youth in history
pungent as a root beer Fizzy eaten
with results no worse than Nehi head-aches
and scraped knees. Awful times with the Russians,
the Chinese scary but not as well-armed.

For a time we lacked ethnic bogeymen,
but the law was firm. In my day I want
to say *sometimes* but I never had more
than an hour now and then that still brings smiles
despite the elasticity of memory.

Not just drugs but casual decay works upon
every synapse and tendon like fool
with a following and a marine corps.
True patriots all; the supermarkets
and highways under construction take them

from citizen to consumer and back,
I think, on occasion, or I hope so.