

# Industrial Revelation

*by* Jodi Barnes

I tell my students about a time  
when seniority was told  
by the number of fingers  
on a worker's hands

No weekends or overtime,  
children — bare toes dangling —  
twelve hours on the line

I look for signs of empathy  
as we watch *Norma Rae*  
UNION placard above her head

Instead someone mimics  
Sally Fields' Oscar line:  
*You like me; You really like me!*

Another asks if she's had  
more than one facelift,  
a third, metallic nails mid-text,  
announces she might be dead.

