

# moms

*by* Kitty Boots

you have laid out their clothes the night before  
made sure they bathed, brushed their teeth  
you checked their homework

after tucking them in  
you prepared and packed lunches  
a few Hershey's Kisses tucked in with the note

"I love you," Mom

you glance at the art gallery on the refrigerator  
the turkey made of a handprint at Thanksgiving  
the Mother's Day card  
a piece of blue construction paper covered with  
macaroni flowers

the dry erase calendar notes the birthday party invitations, the  
recitals, the teacher's conferences, the ball games

every household, every day  
except, for some, it will never be that way again

