

Among Four Walls:

*Laughter. Footsteps. Ring!
They've come for me.
The neighborhood is awake.*

*First day of summer.
Splash!
Into the pool.
The days of sharks and minnows, knockout, And sunbathing have
only just begun.
Like birds, we flock to the swing set.
"What game are we playing today?"*

*Autumn afternoon.
Whoosh! Screech!
The school bus comes to a stop.
A wave of children flow out.
Backpacks flung in the midst of the street.
In minutes we gather in the yard with rakes.
"Leaf pile!"
We scream like animals as we cannonball Into the leaves.*

*Flurries of snow the night before.
A weekend in winter.
Bundled up in endless layers,
With skis and sleds in hand, we climb the hill.
Vroom! The plow creates a pile of snow for our fort.
Stocked up on snowballs, someone shouts
"SNOWBALL FIGHT!"
With wet clothes and red noses,*

It is time for hot chocolate.

*Chirp! Spring has sprung.
Building the go-kart and playing Chinese Jump rope,
Along with my infamous dance shows.
"Girls versus Boys!" "Rematch!"
Soccer games consume us.
"Those teams aren't fair!"
Someone always quits.*

*A yawn. Eyes close slowly. Sigh!
They've all gone home.
The neighborhood is asleep.*

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