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Backhoe Operator

by Georgia Heard

Excavating vacant land,
my bucket digs through clay and sand.
Sinking teeth in solid ground,
cupping earth pound by pound.

Gripping silver levers tight, swivel loader left and right. I scoop a hole deep and wide, dumping dirt from side to side.

Week by week I sweat and toil, layer by layer unearth more soil. Shifting, shoveling—final run. Turn off engine, my job is done.



Out of a pit of soil and rock, a skyscraper will sit on this city block.

CREDITS

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