The Puzzle Women

November the ninth, nineteen-eighty-nine

When the Berlin Wall came down

And the DDR ceased to exist

The STASI secret police

Began shredding

And tearing

Files

On millions

And millions

Of its fellow citizens

So many files that the shredders

Overheated and so many broke that

They had to drive to The West to buy more

But they failed to destroy fifteen thousand sacks

Or over thirty-seven million sheets of A4 paper - each one

Crammed with detailed information on people

Desperate to know what data they held

And so the Puzzle Women now sit

Sorting, sifting, and gluing

Lives back together

But The Wall

Is finally

Gone.