

Lapse

BY ROB COOK

Because everyone knew they could count on him
because he gave his all at work and at home

because of the deadline & so much focus for so long
because of stress & adrenaline & lack of sleep

because his wife was normally the one to drop off the baby at daycare
because of nonstop meetings all morning & only at lunch did he remember

because it was 98 degrees in the sun & hotter in the car
because of skin so dry & body so limp & 911 & ambulance & coma & hospital

because her family flew in & how could he have forgotten
because after 3 days the baby was OK but he was not