

# Six Shorts



Klezmer on Royal Rooster, Yossi Stern, mid-20th C

On Lorin Sklamberg  
*Klezmer Vocalist*

His voice, the shape of an Acacia tree  
Delineated in an oud's rosette,  
Maintains us with the steadiness that we  
Expect of Dad & God, but never get.

I Rage

My angers grow as specific  
As the bodies of the young,  
Even as my own body grows

Indistinct as platitude.

Because They Can

A human life's an order of events.  
Most are terrifying because  
They cannot be anticipated;  
The rest, because they can.

Here Goes Nothing

If you believe in Salvation, alas,  
There's always something left to lose.

Homesick

I'd rather be hated for reasons I know  
Than loved for reasons I don't.

The Graces

Substantial with blood, she will not be ignored.  
Addiction transforms a young girl into some  
Peremptory High Roman patriarch. Lord,  
Accord me the graces that nullified Rome.