

Spring 1985

twilight performance

Jim Doran

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Doran, Jim (1985) "twilight performance," *CutBank*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 24 , Article 25.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/cutbank/vol1/iss24/25>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in CutBank by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

twilight performance

Clarence O'Malley
at it in the alley,
pulls fat rabbit out of hat,
when he says "abracadabra"
it sounds like "buy me a drink";
he lives
 to dillydally
 with Millie
 at Pinky's Grill
& needs some scratch for exactly that,
Clarence continues,
puts his hat back on his crossfire head,
waves his hand
 rabbit evaporates
"how'd you do that, Clancy," someone asks,
"easy," he replies, "was never there, fancy, huh?"
& checks his watch, & hesitates,
& gets itchy,
suddenly Clarence snaps fingers,
presto, rabbit on his head, & wearing hat,
this gleans a few quarters,
not even close,
he needs at least a 5-spot,
wants to take her to the Helsinki later,
hopes she ain't bitchey,
hopes Lucky & jerky, jukebox & dreams,
snaps fingers again,
rabbit turns hat into Sacred Heart Church,
few more quarters,
he can see her gorgeous face,
he can taste the Lucky,
checks his watch, scratches his nose,
"is it 8 yet?", someone asks,
Clarence pulls rabbit out of rabbit
& says, "I guess so", his voice a zombie's;

after counting his money
he sells his watch for 3 bucks,
then dives into the hat,
both disappearing like burning masks
or turquoise exhaust from fire trucks

rabbit hops,
Big Dipper brightens