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Active Rhythm (-Indigo Letter-)

Cal Bedient

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This artist, if you can call him an artist, was squirting blue paint out of his anus onto a canvas on the floor. I'm glad my mother wasn't there to see it. It's what Messiaen calls active rhythm, as when one character punches another in the face.

(There was a long pause.)

"I have your order," Pieter said.

"Where would you like it?"

Went very still.

"Don't wear the earrings, leave them on the table."

Classical art is the last car of the train, the one that goes by silently. It's like the hundreds of silver crosses, too, that flash on the lake without touching it. As for you, you paint with appalling carelessness. The road in your painting, if you can call it a road, looks like chopped rotten wood. That does it, I use the word crapulent against you. Tear my heart out, why don't you.

I have reviewed eight canvases this size and concluded: "Rain is junk atmosphere. It makes one detest all one's acquaintance." Sometimes, amidst this decadent modern art, I tremble all over myself, a blind hairless dog at the base of a mountain of fleas decomposing in twelve angles of fall.

You look surprised, you who feel at home in your air-hanger studio, hearing each up-in-the-corner speaker howling the same meathead theory of art: Lose modulation. Paint between things, not things.

Be a dove. Paint Venus pupping in your laundry basket, careless love.