Randall Thomas

Estate Italiano '76

In Urbino, men piss into the streets
At night, their vicious cats hiding
Crouch and sniff the filthy shadows
Slipping down from the laps of sleeping churches.
Sunday morning, one hundred bells are ringing
Like so many sacred trains
Swaying off to heaven, chugging holy holy holy
Away with the whispered and withered prayers of the old.
But if you are young, you are Communist,
And tomorrow the sun will be Red and rising
Up and into the streets with the sound of water rushing
Running and triumphant, to wash away the sins of their Pope.

