

feeld

Pulitzer
Prize
FINALIST



JOS CHARLES

Winner of the National Poetry Series

Selected by Fady Joudah

I.

thees wite skirtes / & orang

sweters / i wont / inn the feedyng marte /

wile mye vegetable partes bloome /

inn the commen waye / a grackel

inn the garden rooste / the tall

wymon wasching handes /

or eyeing turnups

/ the sadened powres wee rub / so economicalie /

inn 1 virsion off thynges /

alarum is mye nayme

/ unkempt & handeld

i am hors /

i am sadeld / i am a brokn hors

II.

next inn line

at the feemale

depositarie room / mye

jossled eggs

inn a witen sack /

were that i were goldenne

mye rayte / the tayste off gold

inn eggs / cravyng a room

just emtied enuff

2 curl myeself

inn / thees the dreggs / the grl beguines

III.

there is noting

funye bout this / u

alowne / on a tip

that is the tip of whorld

teemd inn / no biger

 than a goodsizd fiste

/ ur growndling hart / fissiond in round

 lisen /

1 daye u wil be all ere /

a ewe alowne / inn a feeld

off mare / i am oldre / & the sayme /

than the naymes u gave / this

is the corse / a tran /

a feeld / a corpse

IV.

gathred the hole inn the guarden / conted the rites
inn a streem / it takes so manie feelds 2 make a hole / see
the sirfase befor the rupture / i kno thees gastric
exursizes r boreing / but please / i see the boyes inn the
playe pin juggling mye holes / i see mye trama lit lik
candie in ther cotten mothes / they wisper *weres ur bird*
soot / u sed ud were a bird soot / & i tuch the urinals / i
washe eech aynchent clawe / agane / & agane / &
agane / & agane / i get reel spesifick / abot the
hemorages i tend inn mye yard / *eech hole is a vote /*
they tel me / *tend ur hole / they saye / remember contry*
cums firste / ur feelds r privyt / this is godes contry

V.

a tran is a thyng u leeve /
wen u scape
a stream / the grls puting ther saltie
secks inn the aire / a tran puts so much
inn 2 the aire / even the see
laps its fete / wen u
cant / a tran provyded want /
lik she just dont care
bout her colden bed / the crouchd
pape crowne wated bout her
hed / she is the 1
who knos evrythyng wants
wher it tends / a thyng u wuldn't tend
/ her rare & vista dayes

VI.

the copse in mye garden /
inspeckting hews / & i am
depositing myeself
lik a fum / am trap
inn ther blak & blu / invagination meens
everie hole is an extremitie / u
rite long enuff inn 2 its sirfase
/ it rites inn 2 u / hah /
thees trees / cannot be insied me /
not with all thees copse arond / please /
i am afrayde
i am riting myeself
metonymic off deth / agane
i am so afrayde / off wut is it ur holding
inn ur souwre hande /
this sirfase has a colore

VII.

a tran lik all metall is a series of sirfase in folde / wee
call manie of thees foldes identitie / sum spase shuffles
betweene / trama or hemorage or othere / this is 1
membraine / 1 folde in yet a nother membraine / a
folde of 1 membraine maye be conected 2 or similre 2 a
folde inn a nother & yet stil smaler membraine / wen a
folde squyshes or colapses a membraine or inhabits a
nother folde upon folde upon folde / this is struktur
or gendre or tellavision or a united stats / u maye
be manie foldes but not / lik the waye an asse
bothe is & isnt conected to this chare / fase / layk

VIII.

the hemorage is swollen & caried across the kultur waye
/ because the hemorage is dripping & because it seduces
/ as a mater of forme / its handes r manie / bieng a tran
is a queery of crisees & r brused handes r manie / this is
a questyon off metalls / tonite the hemorage passes /
the hemorage culd be a clowd or viscuous but tonite /
it is sangwyne / it puts on its skirte & brah /
the hemorage is a seryes of membraine in folde /
the hemorage culd be 2 / lik u / a likwid but its not /
& tonite it is swollen & droped / caried & droped / a
hemorage is a gathring of crisees / droped inn 2 the nite

IX.

off the guarden / ther is much stil

2 prynt / they poynt

2 mye spor / they spech *i wuld*

be hapy / if onlie

this were a spor / it is horribel

off corse to be

tangibel / inside kapitel

seemd lik a prawn / ur prawny

arms / parsel mye care / wut æffekts lik an ere

2 the flor / wut meen the tree / wut

off disfigurd mint