## — Gabriel Drozdov

To Home
In a Cloud
Maryland
As It Is Seen
Mouse
Forever
O, Isn't It Wonderful?
A Low-Hung Head
Time Passes

#### To home I was an outside, just an influence

Was right when I sought the market For once, I was a little sad

Who knows that it's clouded in madness— With the world that made this kid? Maybe not, maybe forgiveness Confused and burdened by a dad

I'm not used to being relaxed Or having so much free time on my hands I can't fit into a neat little language, oh no— Couldn't you just take me home?

All these lives I thought I was someone else Never once was I myself Come to me, give me a chance to do something with my life I promise that I'll make it right this time

#### Give me a sign, I need some relief

I have no idea why I'm feeling down I'm slowly dying, and all my friends do is aggravate Still no one can see what's in my head

To question what's real is an impossible For we must realize irrationality can control Harmony is only an old soul To home, I headed late that day

I'm a creature, deep inside Wearing what I gave myself in a past life I know that I've been away for a long time But I still love you, and I've really tried

All these lives I thought I was someone else Never once was I myself Come to me, give me a chance to do something with my life I promise that I'll make it right this time

#### I have been as ass again

A silent wall in a sulking land You put on me an established way— A dream or place in someone's state With a walk, I can't see the breaks

Within a wind or twist ahead
A naked way on older paths
Do I have rights, can I feel a pinch?
Has she something warm that I can move in?
With this friend, I can see within a cloud

What does this mean to me? How many times can I fall down And forget where I started out?

Someday they'll see a thought, a way, a lone aloft Which path fits my mind?
Who has read the art on the radio's time?

For a while, contracting a disease Inside a hiding point under the sea On a tombstone, I read out loud, "Is anybody watching me?"

#### Maybe not my dear, maybe you have friends

But I wouldn't know what happens at your end I do feel this thing that you call love

Connecting takes some time, persistence is the key There is no relation between a rock and the sea I envy what happiness you must know within a cloud

Why do I get up? How many times must we interact Until we can consider ourselves as facts?

Whatever you may feel, I've always felt inside But just as you throw it out, I find it best to hide

For a while, contracting a disease But I'm secure throughout history A bit of paper that says it's my relief Still I can't see who's following me

In a cloud, in a cloud—

# Who's there to watch the house when I'm gone?

Who's there to beckon me with sleep? I'm here abiding by the hour Until we next meet

I'm here to mollify my voice
I swear that I've come undone
I swear to what required visions
Yes, rid of sun

I am not content with my heart

#### I need to compensate the seconds

I need the minutes to agree I will the hour over, instant I love you, we'll see

I want you, I want you, I want you I know you want me

I am not content with my heart—

### S... with a sibling, deep inside

Lust, absent loving, all nullified Window to watchers, house of thirst And the writer's mind only makes it worse

That's what we've written
That's what we've seen
A planted division from audience to screen

That's what we've ought to
That's what we need
A loving devotion to what's obscene
If you think it for me, then I stay clean

#### Faraway, faraway

F... me on the carpet and then ... on my face Still no one knows of what I am or what I mean I'm a little hung-over from these friendly things That breathe in my secrets to keep fresh the taste That, if I were decent, I'd happily forsake But as I am drooling, my head bids, "Partake—"

I'm excited for this new thing! Don't you think it'll be great?

#### How could I leave the house?

All the others have gone out No puppeteer, my limbs won't bend I need that friend

Out, out—

#### Why should I leave the house?

Never bothered to go out My puppeteer, my nimble friend Do walls end?

How far from the window do you cross? And is it hot? How far until the world stops?

#### I'll step outside the house

My movements walk about
The sun shocks me, the roads winding
And I'll travel

Here, now is a sound A cold tweet-tweet O, how sweet So far from home Am I alone?

### Why did I leave the house?

I have wandered too far out Who might erase me Who might send me off— Am I in trouble?

I have no ideas
I'm not even here—

I can't wait to be dead

#### She says:

It's reasonable to wait here,
Don't delegate me against my fears
I'm just a lucky one
There's the others, maybe hundreds, maybe thousands
I don't know
What were we talking about?
No, not me—
For you I'm crazy, to make me happy earnestly

#### No words of mine can shorten the time

#### She says:

It's reasonable to wait here,
Don't concentrate, you'll push forth tears
We're not the only ones
There's a distance that follows love
Please, stay here—
The words feel near
Your love is clear
And I can wait

Remember, remember— Forever, forever—

#### Remember, remember

Please don't forget me Please don't forget me.

## Novels chronicle burdens, plot holes, and

Timelines distort direct transport, but Countdowns, number lines, move back in time Quarries come alive and get well, revive, then Fathers, mothers, older now, resign, as Brothers, distant, stay their lives.

These fragments, heartaches, astound my eyes I reason, I reason, I lyricize the light

Those mentors passed on far too slow The safety netting will cut my throat Who can reason with an asshole? Just pass on, keep on, move on; go

#### I am childish as never before

Alluding to conflicts that I restore I word it, cryptic, with a chord The method I use to stay secure

O, reason, reason, show them light The audience has waited so polite Exclaim the name of our piece tonight!

O, isn't it wonderful?

### We are heading out before the storm

And she is giving out her vitals like a whore This girl is so sure that she's willing to pull it out But her body likes to keep itself warm

I can't assume anything about you, but if I sat still and paid attention I might learn something new
These pretty colors and your soft sweet voice produce such a sense of something I can't withstand my cries

But now I don't know why and I don't know how to make myself take form Or write lines to keep myself in shape These standard walls are attracting dust and there is no time to fix them And these laws could never exist

I'll play my part

### I can't wait, can't shake off this dreaded feel

Trapped by the reason of a rational man in an irrational world *riverrun* on the killer's side, he's hatching a plan, he's marking a map But I'll never be scared for my life

I don't know why they tried to teach you It's a sorry face, a sorry face And I don't know why they lied so often You have stains running down you cheeks To your pretty smile, to your hungry mouth Whose tongue is often told to please

Please make sense of distant days that travel on and on and on and on We finally found peace inside, no longer caught but petrified Who knew we talk so fast and fuck so much, but not outlast We can't be left alone

I'll play my part

I'm on stolen ground, I'm on stolen ground I'm on stolen ground—

#### This is my submission, as they say

So who says I'm all in my low-hung head? How would they know?

## Heathen or saint, bridging and crossing

Even as I sleep, torment and lock my dreams I heed and follow, they speak forward and backward—

#### O, the mousy girl, she screams violence, violence

Yet I never knew her, my eyes lied; unseen
O, the days are forth and back as I have remained
Yet I must die truly, I'll beg someday
O, godless creatures spitting reason, pouting powerless
Yet I am a monster; I need, I rape

And, could you foster any torture, any laughter Then I will commend you, exalt your name

Who, among us, can persist beyond us?
Beyond the mild complaint—
And who, beyond us, can send back a message?
That corpses and lovers are same—

## I beg the witness to come home

Time passes, I grow old

God dances—
God dances—