

Blank Verse by Charles M Judd  
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LA BOHEMIA

PUCCINI'S FINEST IN MY OPINION  
AN OPERA OF FRENCH BOHEMIANS  
HUMAN BEINGS OF THE BEST KIND  
LOVE STORY, OF COURSE MUST BE

JEAN AND I WOULD HEAR IT STAGED  
THE ZOO OR AT THE METROPOLITAN  
TODAY I LISTEN TO A RECORDING  
AND DREAM OF DAYS WITH JEAN

TWINS

THIS MORNING, WHILE HAVING TEA  
A PAIR OF TWINS APPEARED  
WERE IDENTICAL, DRESSED ALIKE  
I WANTED TO ASK "WHICH IS SMARTER?"

THE REASON I WANED KNOW WAS  
THAT I WAS AN IDENTICAL TWIN TOO  
I MADE THE BETTER GRADES  
TWIN MAJOR CORPORATION  
OFFICER  
I A HAPPY POET

## NAPLES

LESLIE WHEN A JUNIOR IN SMITH  
TOOK HER JUNIOR YEAR IN PARIS  
WE JOINED HER ON SPRING BREAK  
AND SHE WAS OUR GUIDE IN ITALY

WE WENT AS FAR SOUTH AS NAPLES  
ENJOYING EVERY BIT OF IT, INCLUDING  
A VISIT TO THE ISLAND OF CAPRIE  
AND INTO THE ISLAND'S GROTTA

THIS VISIT WAS MADE MEMORABLE  
WHEN AS ENTERED ITS INTERIOR  
TO VIEW THE PAINTINGS ON WALLS  
JEAN SAID, "WHAT'S SO GREAT?"

"MOM! TAKE OFF YOUR SUN GLASSES"  
SAID HER DAUGHTER LESLIE PROBABLY  
THE REASON I REMEMBER THE TRIP, AND IS SO  
TYPICAL OF MY LOVABLE JEAN

## RAIN

WHEN YOUNG, GROWING UP  
WE WOULD SAY: "RAIN, RAIN.  
GO AWAY, COME ANOTHER DAY"  
TODAY WE SAY. "THANKS,  
COME AND STAY A WHILE"

WE NOW REALIZE A FUTURE  
THE EARTH WILL EVENTUALLY  
BURN UP, SO EACH YEAR  
WE GET A BIT WARMER  
SO APPRECIATE THE RAIN

LISTENING

WHEN THE DAY IS OVER AND  
ALL CHORES ARE DONE WITH  
ALL PAPERS AND MAIL READ  
I HAVE THE PLEASURE AHEAD

OF LISTENING TO FAVORITES  
THAT JEAN AND I BOUGHT  
OF RECORDINGS REMINDING  
US, NOW ME, OF VOICES HEARD

IF

IF SHE WEREN'T HERE  
I WOULDN'T BE EITHER  
IF SHE WEREN'T HERE  
I WOULD STILL BE IN BED  
IF SHE WEREN'T HERE  
I WOULD BE UNSHAVED  
IF SHE WEREN'T HERE  
I'D ARRIVE THERE LATE  
IF SHE WEREN'T HERE  
I COULDN'T ATTEND  
"MUSIC LIFE" TUESDAYS  
THESE ARE ONLY SOME  
OF THE THINGS I COULDN'T DO

AREN'T I THE LUCKY ONE?

TO HAVE TRACIE FREEMAN  
LOOK AFTER ME?

HEAVEN

I HAVE MADE A NICE DISCOVERY  
OUR RECORD PLAYER AND DISCS  
IN THE EVENING AFTER I HAVE  
DONE WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE  
AND WONDER "WHAT SHALL I DO"

ABOUT FIFTEEN TO CHOOSE FROM  
ITALIAN. FRENCH. AND AMERICAN  
SOLO, GROUP, OPERA, SYMPHONY  
WHAT WE HAD HEARD AND LIKED  
SO NOW WHEN THE DAY IS DONE

I ENJOY

WHY AM I STILL ALIVE?

ON MY BIRTHDAY IN JUNE  
I WILL BE AN OLD MAN  
NINETY SEVEN FULL YEARS  
THEY SAY IT IS GENES OR  
THAT KIND OF EXPLANATION

IN CINCINNATI IS A GROUP  
STUDYING HOW WE THINK  
CALLED THE BRAIN INSTITUTE  
THEY DISAGREE ARGUING  
IT IS WHAT WE DO TO IT

EVERY TIME WE HAVE AN  
ANESTHETIC TO PUT US OUT  
WE HAVE CUT OFF YEARS  
WE WOULD HAVE LIVED

CHRISTMAS, 12/12

A NICE WAY TO END THE YEAR  
CLOUDY AND CHILLY. NO SNOW  
SANTA CLAUS CAME ANYWAYS  
TO INSURE A CHRISIMAS DAY

ITS BEAUTY IS OUR EMOTIONS  
A DAY ANTICIPATED ALL YEAR  
WHEN FAMILIES GET TOGETHER  
HUG AND KISS, LOVE EACH OTHER

HOW I WISH ITS FEELINGS  
COULD BE WITH US  
ALL YEAR