

Worcester County Poetry Assocation Annual Poetry Contest: The Frank O'Hara Prize Winner's Reading

Sunday, September 27th - 2 to 4 pm

First Unitarian Church - 90 Main Street, Worcester

Featuring readings from the contest winners and contest judge, Dawn Potter.

October
1946
by Dawn Potter

As a kid he lived on cabbage I bet
they is still talking about that funny stance
the sparks from the zinc plant that lit up
like fireworks on the Fourth of July nothing
grew in Weed Field it was those plumes of smoke
from American Steel you breathed that air
all the time it was dirty after his hard slides the fans
threw fruit at his head I didn't like being dead that much

When I tagged that humpty-dumpty bum-armed pitcher
for a home run we was two happy proud Polacks that night
but why was he delivering kielbasa and cheese
if he'd signed with the Cardinals oh they played
the World Series in the daylight back then
and we listened on the radio when he shagged
that can of corn for the second out just one more out
and then car horns was honking men tossing hats

Teddy Ballgame laid his face in his two hands
and cried but in the morning it was all over we was
back to business as usual and in the papers we learnt
how Göring died poisoned himself thought he was
too good to swing with the rest.

