

All Over the World the Sun is Setting

The curtain parted
when Tom said
we're surviving

we've both been
where showing up
is a virtue

I want more Tom said
I did too
just then

later I was remembering
Jakob J, asking him
How are you?

when he said
sur-vi-ving
it was ascendant

he had walked out of Berlin
before the War
a victory for sure

but Tom and I
were standing on the third floor
so many years

after Jakob J
in the United States
of America

when the curtain parted
I ascended to the top
the chariot of Ezekiel

it was covered with
the dew of light
from there I saw

and understood
everything
I saw us all

stretched out
into the future
a long queue

of mildly suffering souls
attached to some good
a pledge to repair

something fine here
something better left behind
a prayer

Jakob J taught me to say amen
when I agree
and when I promise

I swear

james stone goodman