

1998

# Midget's Lament Sung from a Rooftop

Matthew Rohrer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>

Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Rohrer, Matthew. "Midget's Lament Sung from a Rooftop." *The Iowa Review* 28.3 (1998): 138-138. Web.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.S068>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact [lib-ir@uiowa.edu](mailto:lib-ir@uiowa.edu).

## MIDGET'S LAMENT SUNG FROM A ROOFTOP

One ant switching from one blade of grass  
to another, replicated a thousand times  
in the sunny rectangle.

By the time the sunlight reaches us, it's in another form,  
enormous blue particles.

By the time it reaches us, it's old, and we're old.

We're holding in our bladders with blue straps.

Grackles rise from tufts of grass into the light,  
loving each other. Or doing something similar,  
simply committing deeds under the sun,  
one leading to the next, to a roof where a child laughs.

The child's ball has a propeller inside it, it lifts off,  
it rises, the child realizes this might be his last chance  
to say something to it.

*Oh ball, you were the perfect toy.*

*When I reach puberty I will leave this rectangle  
in search of a woman exactly like you.*