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Forgotten

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ROBERT NAZARENE

Forgotten

He was tested. And lost.
A victim of the viruses
of Christmas and credit,

giant banks with crosses:
trash beside the interstates—
infested with mice studying

to be rats. They'd even gotten
his birth-date wrong. He rove
the earth beneath a crescent

sun, dove deep beneath a sea
of toys and trinkets, an ocean
of red and green and glitter

to form a new kingdom:
occulte. As was his nature
he forgave—he gave thanks

and made a vow
never to come again—not
for anyone. *Never*.

This is not a religious poem.
Not anymore. Even as a little
boy—he always told the truth.