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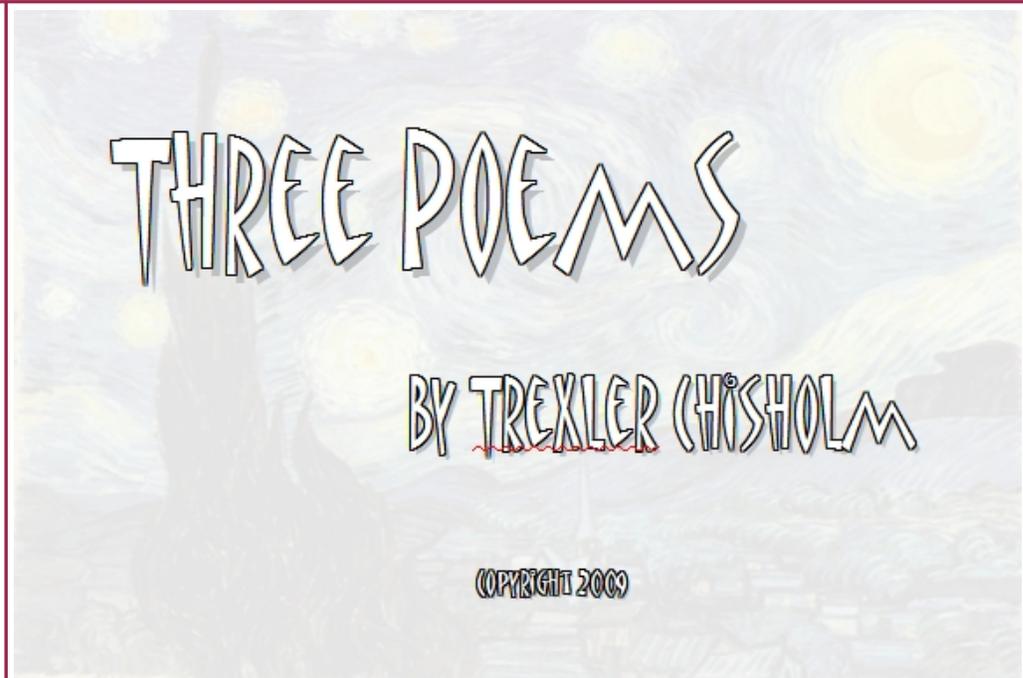
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### **Letter to a Dead Lover**

I'm sitting in a park.  
There is no water to drown in  
There is lawn all around.

I'm sitting in a park.  
I could not fall from the sky to the grass  
I'm not close enough for the sun to melt my wax.

I'm sitting in a park.  
With trees the color of autumn  
Firmly on the ground, not hanging from any of them.

I'm sitting in a park.  
Right in the middle  
I'm surrounded by baby carriages, witnesses, hundreds of people.

I'm sitting in a park.  
There are no coffins or guns  
only pigeons fussing over crumbs.

I'm sitting in a park.  
Can you see me  
sitting in a park?

### **H.P.V.**

*from Y.O.U.*

Our love wasn't forever but...  
It's not what I'll remember.

Boston. A public fountain  
David Byrne singing

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This must be the place

Lights popping to the surface  
Security Guard comes running  
You can't stay

He knew it all  
Should have played the lottery  
Share the same space for a minute or two

Given the same chance  
I'd keep room in my past for a moment with you...

I complain I explain  
I watch them disappear like fingerprints on hoarfrost

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### Twilight Aubade

A summer of mouths  
into which we stuffed ourselves  
in rooms, rooftops and back alleys.  
Love alone can make a joke of poverty.

Now when you recommend growing up  
I hear  
*put out your fire*  
*come to bed*  
*and sleep.*

A drum beat's in the distance  
sometime around twilight,  
it may be coming from the cemetery down the hill  
but it's no roll of taps. No serenade.  
Hear?

What awaits the poor little girl  
with her brindle-dog-dreams  
and the poor little boy  
with his pocket full of firecrackers?

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**Trexler Chisholm** is a poet and editor and lives in Brooklyn. He has written one book of poetry titled the Possibility of Movement, has had poems published in several small Cambridge presses when he was attending university across the river, as well as Bay Currents, and ward6review. He is currently working on a novel that concerns bus rides, a callipygian Gypsy, gondolier sex, marauding bookplates, and the bloodletting aspects of misbegotten paternity. He can be reached at [cjoychisholm@gmail.com](mailto:cjoychisholm@gmail.com).

