

1984

A Lot in Common We Two

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David Zivan

A lot in common we two —

Cathedrals and music and
Old Movies and Donne and
waiting for something new from Salinger —
and Rachmaninoff.

Fuel enough for more than a few years
those loves were, despite an occasional
dousing.

Sergei told our rhapsody with
passion and beauty in the old order —
very little panic and emptiness.
His right hand the laughs and
his left hand the drama
an occasional saracastic minor
but mostly
very hummable indeed.

Sometimes he would weep with us —
he never cried but he wept
hard — like an Arthur over a Guinevere.
Damn that Lancelot. He must have been a hell
of a knight because after him it was over.
She told me over blood red wine
with Rachmaninoff weeping his best
and me crying in the background.

It made no difference
the record player simply
reached the end
and skipped