

2010

From "voyager"

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Recommended Citation

Reddy, Srikanth. "From "voyager"." *The Iowa Review* 40.2 (2010): 95-107. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.6905>

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SRIKANTH REDDY

from VOYAGER

15

*[a splendid
lamentation]*

[under constraints

the

scarred

form

95

steps

in]

act

two

[He

bolts

his

quiet

96

sovereign

to

a cross]

*[Assembly
of the globe]*

[Because

visits

*him
in the little
chamber]*

[he

points

*a to
text*

under

the

world]

98

[the

scale

levels]

act

one

*[they
cut*

down

the

body]

[What

comes

99

in]

[a succession of ambassadors]

[need

without]

[Horatio

the

voice

*of
unhappiness*

100

acting

up

a

little]

[Assembly

*of the
Other]*

[voting

beyond]

101

*[Egypt
magnified]*

[But

the Sea

continues

within]

[The

mouth

of

102

*the
Secretary*

hard]

working

[The

ceiling

suffering

stress]

*forcing the hand [repeatedly
through higher
levels]*

103

*[The
book*

endlessly

Changes]

[In

a

nightmare

the

104

Given

appears]

[they are

United

in autumn]

[Office

work

105

beyond]

[He

types perhaps]

[They

Minister

in

*The
field]*

106

*[making a
negative]*

[they part

Without]

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This passage is excerpted from a longer book-length poem titled Voyager, which takes the form of a sequence of three erasures of Kurt Waldheim's memoir In the Eye of the Storm. (Waldheim served as Secretary General of the UN from 1971 to 1982; shortly thereafter, several prominent Holocaust researchers accused him of collaboration in war crimes committed while he served as an SS officer in Hitler's Wehrmacht during the Second World War.) The passage excerpted here is an erasure of Chapter 15 of Waldheim's text in its entirety, preserving the lacunae in the source text that resulted from the compositional process.