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Poetry by Michael Morell



Lightning Strikes the Dressing Room

I grab a pair of pants, try them on
and finger the waistband for give.
I'm a fish flopping on a cold, hard floor,
the *Incredible Mr. Limpet* who can't find his feet.

The pants fit and don't fit.

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I buy them, but they are not yet mine
until I do my thing, go to the place
I call home, take a tape measure

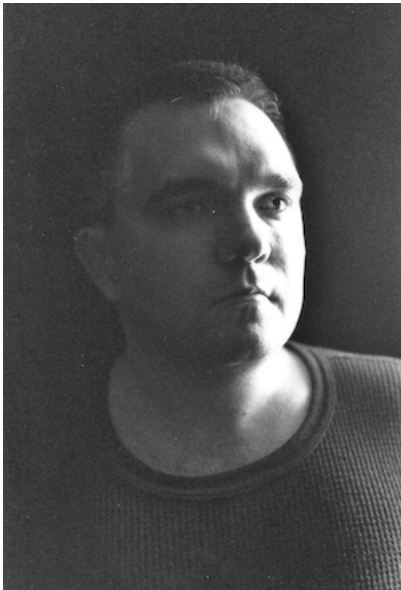
and old medicine bottle full of pins
then make my worldly mark.
Half the material will soon be cut away.
Imagine buying a bottle of beer

and dumping half out. It makes me shudder.
I picture the seamstress stifling a smile
when she sees me entering the store.
I'm her sugar daddy. The dwarf.

Three pair of pants. Forty dollars. See you Thursday.

Art Information

- [Untitled painting](#) [4] © Mario Loprete; used by permission.



Michael Morell is a poet and nature photographer born and raised in the suburbs of Philadelphia. He is the author of the poetry chapbook *On Fire*, and was the founder and publisher of the poetry journal *Sea Change*. Michael's writing has appeared in numerous international journals, including *Paterson Literary Review* and *Rattle*. In 2017, he earned a master's degree in Applied Meditation Studies from the Won Institute of Graduate Studies.

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