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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

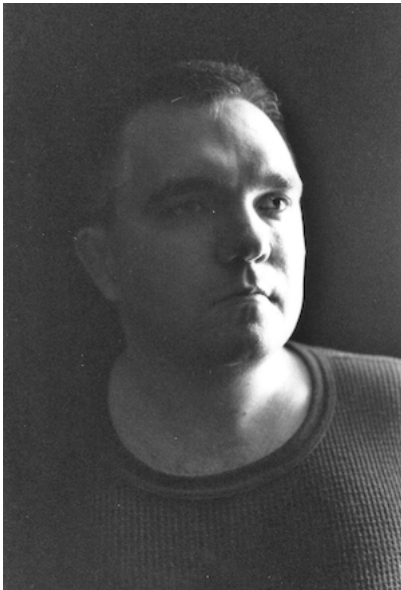
and dumping half out. It makes me shudder.  
I picture the seamstress stifling a smile  
when she sees me entering the store.  
I'm her sugar daddy. The dwarf.

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

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### 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.

**Source URL:** <https://mail.talkingwriting.com/lightning-strikes-dressing-room>

#### Links:

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