

11-15-2012

# The Meter Maid

Trevor Zuidema  
*Grand Valley State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/italics>

---

### Recommended Citation

Zuidema, Trevor (2000) "The Meter Maid," *Italics*: Vol. 2000: Iss. 1, Article 24.  
Available at: <http://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/italics/vol2000/iss1/24>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@GVSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Italics by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@GVSU. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@gvsu.edu](mailto:scholarworks@gvsu.edu).

## Autumn

*TREVOR ZUIDEMA*

Frantically, she shakes, rakes  
maples and oaks. Multicolored  
casualties twirl by her  
finger, bodies spin in  
desperate danse macabre—  
a restoration sacrifice  
for her brusque lover,  
dying summer.

## The Meter Maid

*FOR JUDSON JEROME*

*TREVOR ZUIDEMA*

To those who mind the meter not  
Their sputt'ring cars, hued rust and duct  
tape gray,  
Will be removed from this, my sacred lot.

But oh, they claim too poor to pay  
Attention. Poetry has gone to slobs,  
The fat and greasy spudlings sit all day

On stuffed sofas watching mobs  
Who fight it out on Jerry Springer's show.  
Are these the poets? Lazy, bloated blobs?

Now back to art's hallowed lot—in tow  
Is Sylvia's jalopy—how bizarre!  
Denise's parking wastes my space and so

Please tow it to the closest pound. A car,  
Like art, demands precise geometry,  
The parallel and perpendicular,

The clicking meter, far from being free,  
Is tight and timely, drum of life's parade.  
All novice poets, give your ears to me:

Poetic art by metric scale is weighed,  
For I have spoken.

—Jerome the meter maid.

## The Perfect Poem\*

*TREVOR ZUIDEMA*

As a flower skipped along  
A bird flew down  
And bit its head off.  
Ahhh, the flower screamed,  
I've been decapitated.  
Shut up said the bird.  
In the valley of  
Dead babies  
He dropped flower's head  
Into an eyeless socket.  
Lovely, said the bird.

\*The perfect poem must always contain references to one or more of the following: flowers, birds, and something about love.