

Carrie Magness Radna – Two Poems

Steady (no. 10 of E verses)

Steady as it comes,
this big love is becoming too much

Like a bull
it rushes in, fast as lightning,
slamming me against the wall

I have nothing against you;
I hope you are also
in this, in-the-thick too...

It's been so long, but does it
sound like me, being the steady one?

Why should I always be the steady,
the straight-man when I'm with you?
Do you know the things I can possibly do?

Please don't twist my words around;
just because sometimes I need to be alone,
doesn't mean I don't love you anymore...

If you are currently following the score,
the bull doesn't always win,
but then, I'm not always the matador.

I'll play along with this familiar song...
both of us can...do...

Why should I always be the steady,
the straight-man when I'm with you?
Do you know the things I can possibly do?

The cookie jar

In the cookie jar, I collect sounds
of car horns and flicking tongues
and musician breathing between beats.

Invented phases simmer alone for a while,
as the original bolt hits you hard
instantly, knocking you off your feet,

you grab paper, dictating signals from
the Universe, the Gods are smiling,
rubbing their hands, smiling, basking

in your brilliance as you bake
another tune, another poem,
another great idea

Carrie Magness Radna is a member of the New York Poetry Forum, Parkside Poets and Riverside Poetry Society, and is a winner of 3rd prize for poetry (category: Words on the Wall: Prompt) at the 69th annual Philadelphia Writers' Conference, and the 12th place prize of the 2018 Writer's Digest Poetry Awards. Her first chapbook, *Conversations with dead composers at Carnegie Hall* (Flutter Press) was published in January 2019. Born in Norman, Oklahoma, she currently works at the New York Public Library, sings alto in her community chorus (Riverside Choral Society), writes songs with her chorus friends, and lives with her husband Rudolf in Manhattan.