

## **Judy Katz-Levine**

*For Mark Pawlak and Doug Holder*

### **Town Square Diner Norwood, MA**

July 4 2017

Waitresses in red t-shirts, smiling and red lipstick

Best coffee I ever had

Man in a red baseball hat

Blue aprons and a giggle -

Words of Greek coming from the kitchen

An old fashioned red clock with a polar bear

Clinging to it - seeking to commune with time?

The clock - 20 minutes slow.

A painted model of an old diner

In day-glo colors - blue green and red

A coca cola clock

And two pottery owls - maybe from the

Kitsch of the owners wife? -

A painting, faded, by Gustav Klimt of the lovers

Same one I have in my bedroom -

With the black squares in the man's  
robe, why?

"I can't think that long - going to put

Some hamburger patties on the grill

Today - actually attempt to cook"

These words float through the diner

From a woman in the booth behind me.

Man in a blue t-shirt reading the paper

At the counter

3 American flags hung from

The useless heating vent

An old fashioned radio with antennae askew

A mirror next to my booth by the window

Reflects the sign "Town Square Diner"

The man with the rock and roll t-shirt

Pays and smiles -the one in the red baseball cap-

A deep laugh

"Have a good day - Happy 4th"

The tall containers of red ketchup - lined up

On the counter

Like soldiers at attention

**Judy Katz-Levine** is an internationally published poet. Her two full-length collections include "When The Arms Of Our Dreams Embrace" and "Ocarina." Her most recent chapbook is "When Performers Swim, The Dice Are Cast". "The Everything Saint", another book of collected poems, will be published by WordTech in 2018. An additional collection, "There Are Those Of Us Who Are Close By", will be published by Cervena Barva Press in 2019. Her poems have appeared recently in these journals: "Kriya" (India), "Ibbetson Street", "Blue Unicorn", "Miriam's Well" (a blog), "Springhouse Journal", "Peacock Journal" and "First Literary Review-East". She was featured as The Sunday Poet with her poem "Mississippi John Hurt" on Easter Sunday 2017 in The Boston Area Small Press and Poetry Scene blog of Doug Holder. Judy Katz-Levine is also a jazz flutist and improvisation and ly