

# Poem by Kevin Carrizo di Camillo

## *Were All There* *for Geoffrey Hill*

The seller of used-cars, his cigar  
Noisome, quasi-Cuban; the nuncio  
In his scrim of pallium: didn't cough.  
The neverseen neighbour (gay?)  
Who stopped to say he was "sorry".  
Monsignor-the-trencherman  
& his Romanic subdeacons with  
Collection nets on poles, horizontal  
Gondoliers with monstrous patens.  
The Smiths, wizards, women; Children  
Cursed by the undertaker & his  
Stained presence; Keeners; Common  
& Collect; The old friend  
With his index cards (too large)  
Ready to play apologist.  
The rest of it.

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*Kevin Carrizo di Camillo is editor at Paulist Press and former poetry editor of "Traffic East." The author of "Occasionally Yours (& Others)" (1999), a book of poetry, he has published poems in numerous publications, including the "National Poetry Review," "James Joyce Quarterly," "The Notre Dame Review," and "America," for which he was awarded the Foley Poetry Prize. He is also the co-editor of "John Paul II in the Holy Land 2000" (with Rev. Lawrence Boadt, C.S.P., 2005).*

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