

OOPS

he was still on the sidewalk
about to step off the curb
normally just a quick honk is required
but I was feeling lazy
figured I had time to clear him
bam
what an impact
he went down of course
I got out to have a look at him
he was already on his feet
waving me off
limping rapidly toward the square

John Levin's

When You're Out There

ONE WAY TO GET THROUGH IT

without electricity or hot water
rent control in serious trouble this year
one way would be to put on the voice
Orson Welles used as Michael O'Hara
& read all the chapters
about Dr. Matthew O'Connor
from Ryder to Nightwood
his rumblings about the night
just a few years after Céline
that would be one way
I could try to turn off my wormwood mind
& turn on my cash register instead
but that isn't very likely
after 27 years
of veering between urgency & intoxication