

# Edom

Poetry by  
Christopher William Purdom  
Volume IX



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## 22. Of the Land

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*lapine hardware*

my father raised rabbits when  
he was a boy when i was  
he fried them for dinner i  
kept playmate pictures found in  
third floor halls and discarded  
cartons you were nibbling on  
carrots during the meeting

*Grenzkontrolle*

Africa outed Mother's  
ancestors athousandish  
generations before yours.  
I have no roots in Belgium,  
am not profiled or latenight  
decoded. Ritualize  
us both: indifferent timezones.

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*Layover Delta*

Mutual of Omaha  
on a grainy Panhandle  
bedroom black and white. Younger  
female too short for the strap.  
Atlanta PlaneTrain lurching  
forward to Terminal A.  
Assured control bicep grab.

*Second Tier Deities*

Lynchburg Lemonade pervades  
autobiographic lox  
(never spread that wide before).  
Two-piece dress-code hairbrush-strict  
(strands wrapped around my knuckles)  
we no longer occupy  
Eden Roc Walk-In Closet.

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*fiery habit, morose fit*

one-eighty leaving Logan  
what do we want, when do we  
want it ocean-receded  
room service vs. museum  
marriage definition angst  
cheerleader-costumed Boston  
emerges haphazardly

*every time I feel the spirit*

flutterize that same hillside  
elliptically seizing  
implausible together  
out of thick grass and heavy  
moistures the superimposed  
children smallish and confused  
your wooden fort abandoned

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*offspring*

a thick wad of dollar bills  
to remember you by your  
brother did not want to spend  
the five given by the long  
since apostrophized even  
though he did not know how odd  
life is I cannot save them

*You were in Romania, drinking vodka*

Manchester all permanent  
night and rain and rave music  
in the party bus British  
taxis queueing promises  
winding corners mostly vowels  
a back seat dance that one red  
tail light on the M60

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*invalid assumptions of linear behavior*

while high places lust in fear  
La Jolla's seals, sea lions  
and surf confess turbulent  
kinetic energy phase  
speed amplitude convective  
instability vortex  
stretching fluid dynamics

*pedestrian bridge unlashd*

drank a mule for you which you  
would not have drunk anyway  
from some anachronistic  
tin cup that was Wednesday in  
del mar Thursday lou gossett  
junior behind me one wine  
glass missing the smash burger

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*Grilled Peach Steak Salad*

Round Rock Texas has a Book  
of Mormon in the bedside  
drawer. I should have left a chap  
of poems with it, just as  
likely understood, carried  
in persecuted wagons  
to salt a new hotel chain.

*Maundy Thursday Chardonnay*

@ spousal birthday dinner  
I extrapolate you to  
the bar: properly focused,  
perfectly squared, bracelets bent,  
plus extra pink bunny ears.  
North of Work the Road swings West  
with Yahwist inclination.



## 23. Of the Book

Edom

*Kelly Drive Post-Exilic*

Deliberate duplicity  
fosters complicity, thrills  
inner lane polarity.  
Recline by Saint Joe's boathouse  
a case of special pleading.  
Everyone needs a crisis:  
"I don't know what it is yet."

*godselection*

natural plums equally  
ripe for pluckiness lose keys  
and therefore keyholes along  
the upper spinal ridge nor  
subliminal embedded  
minority religion  
hiptwistliftflagwavesparkle

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*Out of the Bottle*

now you're talking {that's a nice  
outfit heat brick circle wall  
crossed ankles Republican  
Party Princess send him home  
heavy Friday kick back bring  
your own to wedding bullet  
manufacturing} language

*auditory overcomes*

even regimental stripes  
bugling seniorveritas  
cover storm and mightrainsoon  
brassened buttons collar highed  
full dress march demammorized  
shall not move invensynapse  
technicless vocabulair

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*smh*

stalkamoses pantherite  
your eyebrow domination  
feet will bounce three feet apart  
that quiet vowel you stuttered  
agreeance in your cheekbones  
mustlooksideways to your neck  
slang words can mean anything

*obvious*

indigo dye dorsal tight  
cotton warp, thin mint weft, dry  
erase marker serge de Nimes  
sandblast stonewash pumice knelt  
colorizing as you wrote  
abrasive i crave latkes  
both sour cream and applesauce

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*disappointment avoidance*

i prefix you a little  
respite [despite?] Perceiver  
antidimunitive tri  
me laughture disclaimant first  
in class dechurched defathered  
derivations [say "ohno"]  
notsostrange a storytell

*assembly code*

pinkishpurple serpentint  
boaconstrict upscaleglint  
recontextualizes  
your bein adam leMakom  
bein adam lechevero  
Asherah sounds the trumpet  
to sacrifice a male goat

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*6am rewrite: jazz and fog*

Hippie Pudding Pusher No  
weed since Sunday Kiersey J  
[big incoherent mumble]  
being a poem requires  
emotional commitment  
at least a frenzied flirty  
hintbeneathyourcoralsheath

*rbetorical perversions*

Justly Accredited, are  
we official, authorized,  
accurate, verified? "You  
don't hide from me." Leather-zipped  
room-numbered, narcissistic,  
polychronistic volumes  
cant the Uggs, the Crocheted Shawls.

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*Kerr-Newman Metric*

emergent aluminum  
axisymmetric in-turn  
physical bodies attract  
technomic shamanist  
moral interpretation  
protocols, message denser  
centrifugal substances

*Babylonian Science and Calendrical Skills*

The choc'late was good. I ate  
the whole box. It was sitting  
here open on my desk. I  
didn't share. [It looks like how  
you write me. More important  
than the priests. Conducive to  
scribal effort. And bequeath.]

