



Buttonhook Press

2021 *Broadside* Series

POETRY: ALL FORMS & STYLES



LIGHT IN THE CATHEDRAL

A poem translated from the Russian by its author

ANDREY GRITSMAN

+

THE RUINS

OF HOLYROOD CHAPEL

A painting by

LOUIS-JACQUES-MANDÉ DAGUERRE



LIGHT IN THE CATHEDRAL

ANDREY GRITSMAN

Light from nowhere to nowhere.
Wreck of statues on the tiled floor.
Dark crypt is empty.
Judas silent in the corner.
And He is invisible in the chapel,
there is cold and echo of emptiness.
There is nobody to wait for.
Crosses deserted in the dusk.
Still light fell on the floor reveals
the fragments of the marble dream.
Cathedral under repair.
Shadows. And you and I
are alone there.

ABOUT THE WRITER:

A native of Moscow, Andrey Gritsman emigrated to the United States in 1981. He is a physician who is also a poet and essayist. He has published five volumes of poetry in Russian. He received a 2019 Best of the Net anthology nomination. He received the 2009 Pushcart Prize Honorable Mention XXIII and was nominated for the Pushcart Prize several times (2005–2011), and also was on the Short List for PEN American Center Biennial Osterweil Poetry Award. His poems, essays, and short stories in English have appeared or are forthcoming in over 80 literary journals. Explore Andrey Gritsman's new release from Buttonhook Press, *Light in the Cathedral*.

Image: [*The Ruins of Holyrood Chapel*](#) by [Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre \(1787-1851\)](#). Oil on canvas. 83 x 100.9 inches. 1824. [Public domain](#).

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