



May 2024

the jester

Jay Cummings

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Recommended Citation

Cummings, Jay (2024) "the jester," *Floodwall Magazine*: Vol. 2: Iss. 9, Article 14.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/floodwall-magazine/vol2/iss9/14>

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the jester

Jay Cummings

the jester enters the court of the king
exclaiming "which song will you have me sing?"
the king sits and thinks, "this fool and their tone"
and he noticed they showed up alone.
the king says "play me something that shows your best ability"
hoping to save some of their civility.

the jester then puts on their show
singing a song the king does not know.
however the notes do come out foul
and singing like a mules howl.
yet the jester continues to play
unaware to the mess in the entryway.

on they sing about the praises of the king
proclaiming that the king is their favorite thing.
only to realize when the show is done
that it wasn't the king's favor they won
instead is a fate inside the gallows.
"oh how shitty the king, how can he be this shallow?"
only the answer would not soon come
"why couldn't he have stopped what i had become?"
because their head is now in a basket
the village idiot lowered into their casket.

the true answer, that they failed to see
was no matter who the jester may be
they will always fail and fall far behind
because they must know who to be ahead of time.

Jay Cummings is a psychology major at UND. They have been writing in their off-time since high school, and enjoy writing poems and novellas.