

Jack e Lorts

**Simultaneously Reading Biographies of  
Dali, Isherwood and Koufax**

I recall meeting with them  
on a July morning  
in 1947  
in East St. Louis.  
One of them,  
a mere lad of 12,  
decades from accomplishment,  
the others, contemporaries  
in mid-career.

Someone reminisced of Berlin  
in the 30's,  
of the boys of summer,  
dwarf monkeys,  
of Auden & Spender.  
Another dreamt of  
of meeting Stan the Man,  
the boys of Berlin,  
false childhood memories.  
Yet another recalled  
Lorca, Picasso, Galuchka  
on the floor of a barn,  
looking forward to  
pitching a perfect game.

They meld together with  
Winfield Townley Scott,  
Hank Williams and  
Ralph Kiner,  
in the Arcadia Theatre in Wichita,  
the spring of 1957  
singing “Kawliga,”  
visiting the statue  
@ Lake Martin, Alabama,  
hitting home runs  
“to the glory of God”  
in Forbes Field,  
broadcasting Mets games forever,  
a letter from a poet  
drifting through Wichita...