

**SONGS OF BERT MEYERS**  
**(poems by Bert Meyers, music by Lev 'Ljova' Zhurbin)**

**I. BECAUSE THERE'S SO MUCH SPEED**

Because there's so much speed  
without any place to go,  
and driven, blind as light,  
we rush from stone to stone...

I like the subtle snail:  
wrapped in its wooden fog  
it crawls across my yard;  
and where it goes, it paints...

**II. PUBLIC PLACES**

In the small cafés the bars  
the public places  
you can be alone not lonely  
your face is one among the faces  
like an apple on an apple tree

You can sit there for an hour  
you can sit there for a day  
and plan the revolution  
or like Shakespeare  
write a tragic play  
about your love and indecision  
or watch the rain come down  
and see the buildings float away

But you're not lonely here  
just alone no need to fear  
as long as you can pay  
Light a cigarette and dream  
time is an ocean not a stream  
the voices rise and fall like waves

It's beautiful and sad to be alive  
as all the ash-trays turn to graves

### **III. COLLEGETOWN BLUES**

Switzerland's O.K.  
you know  
pretty lakes and lots of snow  
but the people  
all have clocks for hearts  
and cheese for faces

I'd rather be in Paris  
the sunlight's made of wine  
clouds go by  
clouds go by  
who cares about the time  
the boulevards shine like stars  
at night you're in the sky

But I'm still here  
in a college town  
suburban armpit U.S.A.  
the smog just oozes  
over from L.A.  
in a place called Maria's  
where the coffee's  
boiled diarrhea  
and the people  
all look the same

This is the desert  
that lost its mind  
The place that boredom built

### **IV. LULLABY**

Go to sleep my daughter

go to sleep my son  
once the world was water  
without anyone

**[interlude:]**

I can't sleep.  
I wish we were young,  
in a different house,  
in a different town.  
I can hear the dog  
run away in her dream;

Go to sleep my daughter  
go to sleep my son  
once the world was water  
without anyone

My home was a watercolor  
I left in the rain...