

POETRY • SUMMER 2023

## Time of Death

By Gabriel Lupu

Last night I saw a dead man

Last night I saw a dead man and a grieving family

Last night I saw a dead man, a grieving family, and a Christopher Nolan film

Last night I saw a dead man, a grieving family, a Christopher Nolan film, and my Christmas gifts

Last night I saw a dead man and this morning I woke up to a page about autopsy paper work

Last night I listened to a dead heart

I pricked his hand hard and he did not withdraw from pain

I got my art fancily framed for Christmas

I almost spelled his name wrong on the autopsy paperwork

Listen for one minute, I was told, even though we know he's dead

Swollen eyes surrounded me

This morning I listen to records to watch circular motion make sound

For last night color faded.

a b o u t • p o e t

## GABRIEL LUPU

Gabriel Lupu is an Assistant Professor of Hospital Medicine at the University of North Carolina Hospital at Chapel Hill. He received his residency training at the University of North Carolina, M.D. from Brown University, and B.A. in International Studies from the University of Michigan. He also will be pursuing a fellowship in Gastroenterology and Hepatology at UNC. He is published in *Plexus Magazine* for poetry and *The Michigan Daily*. He has also published scientific literature in various medical fields.