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## Song

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been a defeat for Hitler, the belief that Austria was an anomaly unless joined to Germany remained strong throughout the twenty years of the First Republic. For reasons that have been frequently mentioned in recent books and articles, Austria has since 1945 discovered its own identity both as a political state and as a nation. Among the reasons normally cited for this, the most potent are the trauma of Nazi occupation and war and the *détente* between left and right forces in Hitler's concentration camps. The question of Austria's future must remain uncertain in view of both the half-digested Nazi experience and a certain reluctance to bring the memory of this experience into the open. The economic prosperity and the nightmare of the seven Nazi years (1938–45) will certainly have a strong impact on the Austrian mind. Whether economic well-being, considering the unpredictable nature of economic systems the world over, will prove a permanent factor in rejecting Nazism forever, and whether the memory of the nightmare will die out with the last survivors of the Nazi trauma are questions which no one can answer. The hope of all of us must rest on the good sense of the Austrian people to keep their hard-won democracy and to say no to Nazism now and in the years to come.

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## *Song*

Under a broad red wing of maple  
 a broad-assed fine-feathered Bacchus  
 dreaming it off or perhaps dreamless.  
 His figure, through the rain,  
 swimming free of family and genus, becoming  
 for a moment magnificent:  
 a great West Indian Nightwing  
 twenty shades of black lighting his tail.

In a lot behind Tut Jackson's High Hat Lounge  
 about five maybe six this morning  
 rocked to my knees, rocked into song  
 by this bloated old wreck of a boozer.

Ah, Papa! Still? And after all and after all,  
 this desire to idolize you and to redeem you?

—*Joe-Anne McLaughlin*