Several sorrows ago

by Yehiel E. Poupko in the June 21, 2017 issue

Several sorrows ago Before grief came to echo and voice And tears to a pulsing spring, Several sorrows ago Before the poem And portrait Dared word meaning And purpose its bastard child, Several sorrows ago Before each witness Knew silence And its deafening cadence, Several sorrows ago Before blood coursed with pain And flesh knew but itself, Several sorrows ago When only the old withered And we were frozen young, Several sorrows ago Eyes that saw not Ears that heard not Several sorrows ago Before children died And life just moved with the sun Several sorrows ago When God still knew us And we did not