

But It's Solid Wood Paul Lieber

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So the Salvation Army and the Jewish Organization
show up simultaneously,

peacefully, and the Jews look like a front
on the prowl for goods to sell privately,

aren't interested in the long dresser.
Neither is the Salvation Army or

"Moving Along," a company on the hunt
for silver platters. No, the dresser stands,

unwanted, stripped of her underwear,
photos, so many patterned scarves,

just a bruise on the left lower drawer,
but still sturdy. The bare reminder

of Max, Morris, Jenny and others
I never knew and when the drawers

are removed it's unrecognizable
like Cliff when a virus took hold of him.

A frame. Bones. And daylight
swinging thru with a disregard for what was.

The superintendent and Juan carry
the lengthy skeleton, that unchanged length,

lift it on a gurney, tilt it in the elevator, down
to the basement, out the side door

and set it on the street
with the trash.



Paul's collection, "Chemical Tendencies," published by Tebot Bach, was a finalist in the MSR poetry contest. Paul also received an honorable mention in the Allen Ginsberg Contest. Paul produces and hosts "Why Poetry" on KPFK radio in L.A. and Santa Barbara. His poems have appeared in the Patterson Review, Askew, Alientum, New York Quarterly, Solo and many other journals. Paul works as an actor and has performed on and off Broadway and in numerous films and TV shows. He has holds a B.A. from C.C.N.Y. and an M.F.A. from Antioch. He lives in Venice CA with his wife and son. Visit his website at paulieber.com.