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Ad Libitum

Ode to an Everyman

I hold you in my hands,
an embryo
no bigger than a dust mote

within a droplet—
one of many
nurtured in the dark

of an incubator this day.
Conjured from a sperm and egg,
each a life to be fulfilled—

ascendance, then decay.
What might you become
once I place you there—

a cutpurse or a Liszt,
or die a little death
within the womb?

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