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Publikum

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PUBLIKUM

by Merrill Asp

Hamlet,
in his unseen free time,
spends moments elsewhere
from Elsinore.

Actors have it
almost right
when they finish a scene
and hang up their roles
to sit bowlegged
on prop furniture,
smoking.

In fact,
the man holding the bowler hat
does have a cigar in his other hand.
He sits in the corner of a fictional pub
and laughs loud and long
as he tells of the fellow
who plays him onstage
waiting for Godot.

