

Chugger

By Frederick William Schroeder IV

Have you come to see him,  
the World Famous  
Incredible Chugger?

He travels the globe,  
appearing wherever the beers are.

He needs no volunteers  
nor even a lovely assistant.

You've heard of his big trick,  
the one where he chugs a full beer,  
as if by magic,  
in just a half gulp?

One moment, he holds a full cup, then  
Hocus Pocus  
it's gone without a drip.

I once asked him how he does it.  
He answered with a belch  
and staggered away.

A chugger never reveals his secret.

The Chugger has no problem  
performing again and again  
for his enamored fans,  
so long as they provide the booze.

There isn't a whole lot of money  
in being a World Famous Incredible Chugger.  
Aside from free drinks,  
and few dollars gained in bar bets,  
the income is slow.  
Even more money is disappearing when you factor in the bills  
for damaged property, lost keys, and bail bonds  
that come with the lifestyle  
of a roving magician.

Rumour is,  
he once had a family.  
Friends, too.  
They all disappeared.