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THAT MUSIC REMINDS ME

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THAT MUSIC REMINDS ME

Cat balances on a fence
in a back alley at night
bowing a fiddle that fits him,
its sound echoing
in the gray dampish air
like an Irish ditty,
which it might be, this cat
perhaps an emigrant
from Cork where so many
in loneliness and
in sorrow have come,
he's a smart tough cat who has
weathered much and if he
seems to you unfeline,
like mongrels with their bones
he has learned how and where
to stash this one precious thing
that croons the past for him.

Ray Greenblatt