

Photo by Yuri Belanovsky

POETRY DESK

Leave-Taking of Pascha

David O'Neal

Thirty-nine days Are sufficient For rejoicing. Spend more time At it than that And you begin To miss the other Resurrections That bless the cosmos Every time honesty And compassion Come to their Inevitable conclusions. These small risings-from-the-dead, Unadorned by empty tombs, Can be easy to miss. So, then, let us take This farewell to be The beginning of a 326-day opportunity To pay attention to them. In Leap Year, 327.

© 2016 THE WHEEL. May be distributed for noncommercial use. www.wheeljournal.com



David O'Neal is a book editor who lives in Boston, Massachusetts. He is a graduate of St. Vladimir's Seminary. His essays and poetry are archived on his blog, *Nonidiomatic* (davensati54.blogspot.com).