

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

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By John Cotter

June 20, 2023

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My hearing is going. "Going" understates the issue. My hearing is nearly gone. When I was a kid, I'd spend the night in any loud dive, the pulse of bass in my blood cells. I loved the simultaneity of busy bars: the overhead music and the smack of pool balls. You could laugh while you listened while you danced. I knew what everyone in the room was down for, like a spider in the center of its web. I knew who to kiss and who to shun.

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