

EMMAN USMAN SHEHU

Explanations

The yesterday man
pops up again,
a generous close-up
that today's man forbids,
fills the living room screen
and in-between commercials,
his spaghetti of explanations
clutter the audio level.

The yesterday man
is here again
only this time
clutching brittle straws,
facing a camera's inquisition
on an evening talk show,
an option today's man dreads,
for even a brief close shot
would spill a damning tale.

Would today's man
be on some channel tomorrow
spluttering details
spiced with hindsight,
telling plotless stories?