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Death

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Death

Cover Page Footnote

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Death

like a pugilistic adversary
stalks me,
walks me 'round,
jabs incessantly my tired frame,
drives home too oft
a solid blow,
cuts me up,
pummels me,
only feints his finisher,
holds it off
toys with me . . .
floors me,
still I rise
for more,
unhero-like,
instinctively,
trembling,
fearful,
fearing the void,
the after,
the threatened ignobility—
fighting to stay afoot
when all is lost
except
to stay afoot
and lose
fighting.

—CLARENCE A. AMANN