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Stanzas

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Stanzas

Cover Page Footnote

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Stanzas

*rupture verse and fracture
prose, severing vital thoughts
to isolate the meaning,*

*dislodge the sense, and remove
the spirit. Dissection can
also help preserve the reflection,
maybe insulate the dream,
and free the mist from the shadow.
They can put its beat to rhythm*

in an orderly operation,

*or scatter the dust on
a broken urn. They can*

*lacerate with cold mettle
and tear gentle tracks of wound,
making disjointed scars for
the sake of scientific*

sake.

*Mood, in lyrical garb, leaves
truth in flow for cloudy
mirages. They spread the germ
of fraud to slash the feel
of feeling. With scalpel, lancet*

*or sickle, word is chopped
to feed fire and build bench.
When gray clouds hover over
gray men marching by, and all
is in peace on a surrogate
side, then petals will sway*

*in apathy to a black wind,
and the parallel lines of life
will tangle into a silver,*

*symmetrical hell. But the hungry
will stay fed if they guide*

their blue spoons inward.

HAROLD DILL