1980

Of Abraham Nestor

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Out in the meadows
the clowns gather hither
holding candles in their hands
forming a circle 'round the grave
of Abraham Nestor

A speech is given each night's end
a lesson to be heard
by clown's ears and eyes
and by the cross and grave
of Abraham Nestor

Thunderous skies reveal
the clowns kneeling down,
as night is dark their clothes are
but smiling remain the faces by the grave
of Abraham Nestor.

As ceremony ends
clowns rise on off the ground
and toss their candles down
watch them one by one go out
on the grave of Abraham Nestor

DIMITRI MARKOULIS

Heroine

Someday
they'll strike a medal,
mold a cup,
weave a laurel crown,
inscribe a plaque
engrave the feat
upon a stone:
"SHE FOUND THE METTLE
TO SET ASIDE A LOVE
THAT COULDN'T BE
AND WAS . . ."

Then
will all the bronze
and gold
and short lived green
and long lived granite
dulled upon her trophy shelf
stir her heart
the way
one fragile smile
of his
used to?

CLARENCE AMANN