"The following [poem] is a paid advertisement … "

Ann Stanley-Barry
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"The following [poem] is a paid advertisement …"
there are no revolutions anymore
no one sees the need for
radical change...

we've all been programmed
at a young age
to believe all our problems can be
solved in half hour slots and
that taking any longer is
irrational...

we've been given 20 second
attention spans- programmed so
anything that takes longer to learn, is not
accompanied by a theme song and presented
in techni-color is too much for us...

we've been fed on instant
gratification, shallow
goals and self
loathing...

we've been brainwashed into believing
products, produced by the
corporations that run this country,
are the only cure for our
problems...

that happiness exists only through
the accumulation of money; money
to support our corporate society; money
to buy products produced to
cure our growing insecurity- which is produced
to insure their security:
profit...

but what of our own profit
programming
is called programming
for a reason; but
our deadened minds
reject the obvious facts
of our existence... 

if we see the need for change,
for solutions, for happiness- we can
flick the switch and we are dosed with
instantly gratifying scenarios presented
to quell our fears, our
desires... 

it's Huxley's soma via radio waves... 

we've all been programmed
to be addicted to a box
carrying lies; that we've been
socialized to believe because
it's easier that way... 

and we've been taught
that they easy way is
the best way... 

so, we get our fix
and rest easy; believing
there's a world in which
solutions come effortlessly; in which
revolutions are unnecessary; in which
thought is consistent with
advertising; in which
everything's
easy... 

because
we've been programmed
to live vicariously in a world
based on unreality and believe in
the reality of fiction over
fact... 

and that
revolution is unnecessary
in this world...