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Hank III At Night

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HANK III at NIGHT

poem by
GRAHAM WILCOX

Straight to Hell,
says the album jacket.

Stifling a sound
more snarl than laugh,
I put the disc
in the CD player.

The player grinds
its mechanical teeth.
I grimace
and smack its side.

It clicks, sputtering incoherently
in its electronic tongue.

I glance at a wall, then the player.
A few seconds later,
silicon innards and wired entrails
are scattered across the wallpaper
like some technophobe's abattoir.

A lonely riff starts
stomping from the speakers.

I should smile.