

MOLTEN SUNSET
BY: AARON OZEE

MAMA RAMONE

CAREFULLY AND EXUBERANTLY PASSING AWAY
UNDER HER SOILED BED SHEETS
AS SHE VIOLENTLY GRASPS THE EMBEDDED THREADS
THAT EMBROIDER HER SHADOWY, WITHERED FIGURE
BARBARICALLY CLENCHING HER YELLOWED FRONT TEETH
AS THE AGONIZING PROMISE OF INFINITE DEATH
SLUMBERS SOUNDLY AND COMFORTABLY
UPON HER DEAF SENSE
CONTINUOUSLY EVADING THE BOISTEROUS WINDS
OF A SILENT, MOLTEN GRAVEYARD
THAT CORDIALLY RUMBLES BENEATH HER BODY
GIDDILY AND VEHEMENTLY AWAITING THE FINAL WORDS OF HER SENTENCE
SHIVERING WITH WICKED DELUSIONS
AND OBNOXIOUSLY FLINCHING AT THE SCRATCHING IRON
SHE LIGHTLY CROSSED PATHS WITH HER VAST MEMORIES
OF A LIFE BEFORE NO MORE
ONE OF WHICH DID NOT INCLUDE
THE SAD AND BROKEN TONE
OF LITTLE, OLD MAMA RAMONE

FORGOTTEN STEEPLE

AWAKENED WITHIN THE NIGHT
BY THE RATTLING OF CAGES
AND THE BLEEDING OF THE BARS
OF THE ECHOING PAST OF THE AGES
KEENLY AND UNWILLINGLY LISTENING
TO THE FORTHCOMING OUTCRY OF SIN
DEMONICALLY SCREECHING ITS NAILS
FROM ONE DIMENSION TO THE NEXT
DEEPENING INFERIOR CRATERS
NEARLY TO A PRISTINE FIT
FOR THE CHARRED CHARIOTS OF LOW
TO HEROICALLY GALLOP BACK ON DOWN
FORGETTING THAT I A MERE MORTAL
STILL ATTACHED TO THE FLAMED TRAIL
HAD BEEN ACCIDENTALLY DRAGGED
INTO THE IGNEOUS DOGMA

DRIPPING STONE

BUBBLING LAGOONS OF SWELTERING VOMIT
ENTRENCHED WITH INNOCENT SWEAT AND TEARS
FROZEN STILL BY THE UNSETTLING WHITE SIGHT
OF INSEPARABLE HERDS OF CLUMPED MERCURY
DESPERATE SOULS PADDLING HELPLESSLY
AS SCARLET-RED FIENDS BRAND THEIR BACKS
WITH BOILING PROPS OF EVIDENT EVIL
WELDED STRANGELY TO SURPASS BENEVOLENT NEEDS
AS I HANG HORRENDOUSLY UPON THE SERRATED BELLIES
OF THE THREE-HEADED HOUND THAT SO OBEDIENTLY
BOWS BELOW THE WHIMPERING AND WAVY TUNNELS
THAT TEMPTINGLY LEAD BACK TO BREATH
DELIVERING NO OTHER SACRIFICE
THAN AN IRREVERSIBLE COUNT OF DEATH

DINNER WITH GRIM

DELIGHTFULLY SIPPING TEA
FROM THE BASE OF A NEWBORN'S SKULL
AS I SNACK EVER SO POLITELY
ON THE PLAGUED LEGS OF FRESHLY DEAD GULLS
HOLDING ON TIGHTLY
AT THE CENTER OF HIS BARREN AND BONY PALMS
MAKING A MOCKERY
OF HOLY SCRIPTURES, SCROLLS, AND PSALMS
PRONOUNCING THE SYLLABLES
OF THE SACRED GHOSTLY GRACE
CONCLUDING OUR SUPPER
BEFORE THE EYES OF THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE
COMPLEMENTING ONE ANOTHER
FOR OUR EXTEND YET POOR HOSPITALITY
COMPLETELY ALLEVIATING
THE HUMOROUS SCARS OF OUR ABSENT MORALITY
WISHING OUR GOODBYES
AS WE PART WAYS TRAVELING STEEPER
INTO THE SEPARATED GRAY ABYSS
AS I WALK FURTHER AWAY
FROM MY CLOSEST FRIEND
THE GRIM REAPER

WHAT'S YOURS IS MINE

CRUSTED BLISTERS AND BOILS
TAKING GROTESQUE SHAPE OVER MY FEET
AS I PRESS TO PAINFULLY MOVE ONWARD
INTO THE LAVISHLY TILTED TORNADOES
THAT SWIRL ETERNALLY ALONG THE HEATED DUNES
OF THE FUNNELED FIELDS OF CORRODED DESTINY
PARCHED WITH CRACKED THIRST
AND HUNGERED WITH EMPTY MEAL
I RABIDLY SCROUNGED FOR NOURISHMENT
BY DEVOURING LOOSE SAND AND GRIT
AT LAST FORCING MY HANDS
THROUGH THE STEAMING, DRY MUD
I FORTUNATELY DISCOVERED
SOME ROTTING YET PALATABLE FLESH
UNKNOWINGLY SINKING A BITE
INTO THE DELECTABLE DISH
I SUDDENLY FELT THE PUNCTURE
OF A TIGHTLY FIRM PINCH
IT WAS MY VERY LEG THAT I HAD ATE
FOR THE SAKE OF MY SURVIVAL
BUT IN THE VERY END
THE ONLY SUSTENANCE THAT I RETAINED
WAS THE FULFILLMENT OF MY DENIAL

UNWANTED GROWTH

STUTTERING STALKS OF STIFLING MOLD
GROWING HIGHER UP SO PROUD AND BOLD
PRESSING AND PULLING ON THE PIT OF MY CORE
GOUGING MY ORGANS LIKE A ANGRY BORE
COMPETITIVELY PUSHING FROM THE MOTHER SEED
THAT IS WARPED SO MENACINGLY IN THE BUNKER OF MY BLEED
AS IT IMITATES THE BEATING OF MY ONCE THOUGHT HEART
ONE THAT HAS NOW BEEN EATEN AND TORN APART
LEAVING ME TO DROWN IN A PUDDLE OF FAULTS
URGING ME TO RECONSIDER MY MOST RECENT HALTS
HIDEOUSLY HANGING MY RIGHTS
HEINOUSLY HUGGING MY WRONGS
AS I BEG FOR THE CROWS TO COME GET ME
BEFORE I SHALL FOREVER BE GONE

PLAYFULLY DEVoured

PRANCING PIXIES PICKING THE TOES
OFF OF A DEAD MAN'S LIFELESS BONES
HOARDING HIS EYES, FINGERS, AND TEETH
GATHERING ABOUT TO THANKFULLY EAT
DIVIDING HIS KIDNEYS THROUGHOUT THE GROUP
MIXING IT WITH FAT TO CONCOCT SOME SOUP
ALONG WITH BITS OF SKIN SERVED AS SIDES
PERFECTLY ENCLOSING THE EACH MEAL ON TIME
NOT RUSHING TO FINISH THEIR FULL COURSE
THEY DISPERSED ONCE AGAIN WITHOUT REMORSE
SEARCHING AND SEARCHING FOR A NEW VICTIM
ONE OF WHICH WOULD HOLD GREAT WISDOM
QUICKLY DISCOVERING WHAT THEY THOUGHT WAS FOOD
THEY ALL HOPPED ON A BODY THAT DID NOT MOVE
IGNORANT TO TOUCH AND ABSENT FROM PAIN
THEY CAME TO THE CONCLUSION TO TAKE HIM AWAY
BRINGING HIM OVER TO THE HUDDLED GROUP
ONCE MORE GETTING READY TO MAKE SOME SOUP
BUT EVEN BEFORE THEY MADE HIM THEIR OWN
THERE WAS SOMETHING THEY DIDN'T KNOW
THAT THE MAN LYING IN FRONT OF THEM WAS IN FACT NOT DEAD
FOR IT WAS ACTUALLY I WHO HAD BEEN TUGGED OUT OF BED

NOTED TRADE

SIGNING AWAY MY LIFE
TO SAVE THAT OF ANOTHER
ALLOWING SATAN TO TAKE ME
TO A PLACE LIKE NO OTHER
A LAND WHERE I CANNOT ESCAPE
AND GO BACK TO MY HOME ON EARTH
FOR WHERE I WILL SOON BE HEADING
WILL CERTAINLY CRUMBLE MY HEARTH
THERE IS NEVER A BEGINNING
FOR THERE IS ONLY AN END
ONE OF WHICH YOU CANNOT PREDICT
ONLY HOPE THAT IT DOESN'T OFFEND
FOR I DO UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES
OF WHAT I AM ABOUT TO DO
BECAUSE IF IT MEANS SOMEONE WILL LIVE
AND NOT INNOCENTLY PERISH AND DIE
THAN I'M AFRAID THAT I MUST SAY "ADIEU"

REMOVED FROM HONOR

ROWING DOWN A RIVER
FILLED WITH FLOUNDERING SOULS
HOWLING LIKE WILD ANIMALS
AT THE GAZE OF HIS PATROL
SPEARING THE NUDGING HEADS
OF THE ROWDY, RESTLESS SPIRITS
BOATING RIGHT OVER THEIR BODIES
RESTRICTING THEIR VERY LIMITS
CURSING AT THE LIARS
SPITTING AT THE HERETICS
HACKING AT THE GREEDY
KICKING AT THE SKEPTICS
SWEARING AN OATH TO KILL
ANYONE WHO DISOBEYS
PUTTING DOWN THE LAW
FOR ANY THAT GO ASTRAY
FORGETTING ABOUT HIS WEAKNESS
FOR THE DEMENTED AND THE DAMNED
HE LEANED IN TOO CLOSE TO THE WATERS
AND WAS IMMEDIATELY STRIPPED OF COMMAND
ALL THOSE WHO WISHED
TO ONE DAY GET THEIR REVENGE
AT LAST WERE ABLE TO HAVE IT
UNDER THE CONDITION
THAT HE MUST NEVER BE ABLE TO AVENGE

MISERY'S MYSTERY

SKIPPING AROUND THE EMBER TREES
AS THEIR FRUIT BEGINS TO FALL
DROPPING TO THE GROUND BENEATH
BELOW OUR VERY HAUL
PLUCKING ONE OFF THE BRANCH
TO PLEASE MY EAGER DRIVE
SUPPRESSING MY INNER DEMON
AS I LONG FOR THE ENTIRE HIVE
GREEDILY TAKING A BITE
FROM CENTER OF THE ORB
I FALL UNTO MY KNEES
QUESTIONING ITS LORE
UNABLE TO DECRYPT
THE CODE THAT IT CONTAINS
FOR NOT ONLY DOES IT BEWILDER
BUT IT DESIRES TO BE REPAID

GOOD-BITE

SLITHERING BEHIND THE THISTLES
SLEUTHING ALONG THE ROADS
BOARDED BY TRANSLUCENT SCALES
SWIMMING BETWEEN THE PARTED MOATS
SHAKING AND SHIMMERING ITS FRAIL TAIL
TO THE PLUMMETING OF MY PULSE
QUICKENING WITH EVERY DROP
AS I CONTINUE TO NERVOUSLY CONVULSE
TOO HEATED TO REASON
TOO STEAMED TO SEE
TOO MANGLED TO MOVE
TOO WOBBLY TO WEEN
WEAKENING BY THE MINUTE
FROM THE PREVIOUS VENOM
INJECTED DIRECTLY
RIGHT INTO MY STERNUM
LOSING BLOOD QUICKLY
WITHOUT ANY CONTROL
I LOOSELY TOPPLED OVER
INTO THE GRIP OF ITS ROLL
DEFORMING MY NECK
ERUPTING MY VEINS
BENDING MY BONES
BURSTING MY BRAINS
SQUEEZING ALL THE LIFE
STILL ALIVE WITHIN ME
OPENING ITS MOUTH WIDE
SWALLOWING ME FREELY
LEAVING NOTHING BEHIND
FOR ANYONE TO FIND
GOING ON WITHOUT A TRACE
TOWARDS THE EDGES OF MY MIND

UNBELIEF

COMBINED CLUSTERS OF RIGID SPIKES
STUCK ALONG THE MUDDY REEF
HOISTING THOUSANDS OF BLINDED MEN
MILES OFF THE BOTTOMS OF THEIR FEET
GOREY TOTEMS STUCK INTO RUST
WITH WINDY EROSION TEARING AT THEIR LIMBS
OBLITERATING THEIR REMAINING WILL
TO TRY AND FIGHT THEIR WEIGHTED SINS
FOR THEIR UNGODLY DUES HAVE COME TO PASS
PULLING EACH OF THEM DOWN
FURTHER AND FURTHER
MAKING EACH EXCRUCIATING MOMENT LAST
BUT WHAT IF THE REASONING BEHIND THEIR CAPTIVITY
IS REALLY MEANT TO NOT PUNISH THEM
BUT TO MAKE THEM SEE
AN EXPLANATION TO WHY THEY ARE CONDEMNED
FOR ACTING LIKE FOOLISH IMPS
MOST CERTAINLY WILL LEAD TO GREATER GRIEF
BUT UNDER THIS CIRCUMSTANCE
IT WAS BECAUSE OF A LACK OF THEIR BELIEF

CONQUERED INVASION

PILLAGING MY TOWN
WHILE MURDERING MY FAMILY
SUFFOCATING MY BROTHER
RIGHT THERE IN FRONT OF ME
BEHEADING MY PARENTS
AND DISMEMBERING MY NEIGHBORS
WHILE FORCING EVERYONE ELSE
TO ENDURE HARD LABOR
ENSLAVING MY VILLAGE
ONE HOUSE AT A TIME
ANNEXING MY BELONGINGS
WHICH ARE NO LONGER MINE
CHISELING CHILDREN INTO TEMPLES
TOO LARGE TO BE OVERTHROWN
IDENTICALLY BUILDING A SICK RESEMBLANCE
OF THE ONCE THRIVING CITY EL DORADO
RENAMING OUR SACRED SETTLEMENT
AND THE PLACE WHERE I WAS BIRTHED
NOW INTO THIS INHABITED WASTELAND
THAT WE HAVE ALL COME TO KNOW AS
HELL ON EARTH

BLUNDERING BELL

PIVOTING UPON THE NORTHERN CORNER
WEST OF THE CASCADING BELL TOWER
AS THE CHILLING CHIMES OF BOULDER BRONZE
CLINGS SIMULTANEOUSLY
WITH THAT OF THE FALLING GLOBS OF MELTED PAINT
SEVERING THE SNAPPING BEAMS OF FOUNDATION
CRUSHING THE EMBEDDED YET BRITTLE PAVEMENT
DRAINING INTO THE SLOSHING AND CINDERING HOLE
THAT HAS ORIGINATED AT THE FOCUS OF THE STRUCTURE
HOLDING ONTO THE GOLDEN GUARDRAILS
THAT PREVIOUSLY FENCED THE OUTER FACADE
NOW ERADICATED INTO SLIVERS OF ASH AND SALT
BREEZILY BLOWING INTO THE DISTANT AIRS
LEAPING AWAY FROM MY ONLY AID
I FELL STRAIGHT DOWN INTO THE PAUSED PARADE
OPENING MY EYES TO SEE WHAT HAD OCCURRED
I SUDDENLY REALIZED THERE WAS NOTHING TO BE HEARD
MUTED FROM ALL OF THE ABOVE DESTRUCTION
PREVENTED FROM CHALLENGING PRESENT CHAOS
FOR IT WAS NOT THE DISMANTLING OF ANY SUCH IDOL
BUT THE CONFIRMATION OF A MUCH LARGER LOSS

WEIGHING THE BALANCE

SCYTHES AND SABERS HELD AT HAND
AS THE RUMBLING RIOT STATES THEIR DEMAND
VIGOROUSLY PETITIONING FOR A BIBLICAL RELAPSE
REVERTING BACK TO ANCIENT COMMAND
LOOKING TO BE LEAD BY DEITIES AND GODS
CELESTIAL BODIES THAT CANNOT BE KILLED BY GUNS
ONES THAT FORM THE REALITY OF SOCIETY
SENDING ALL WHO RESENT THEM BACK ON THE RUN
FIGURING THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE IN LIFE
IS BY WORSHIPPING THE PURE AND DIVINE
BEINGS THAT WILL TAKE CARE OF THEIR FOLLOWERS
AND PROVIDE THE IMPOSSIBLE AND SUBLIME
FOR IT IS UP TO US TO CHOOSE A SIDE
ONE THAT WILL STAND STRONG BEHIND
SUPPORTING US ON ALL OUR ENDEAVORS
NO MATTER THE COST NOR THE BIND
BUT THOSE WHO GO TO WAR
BESIDE THEIR GREAT LEADERS
WILL CERTAINLY CONCLUDE
WHOSE FAITH IS WEAKER

AMONG US

RIBS BEING RIPPED
SKULL BEING SCORCHED
AS THE LIGHTING OF THE BEACON
IGNITES THE NIGHT'S TORCH
CALLING OUT TO WANDERERS
FROM THE DISTANTLY FAR
TO JOIN IN DEAREST CEREMONY
WITH THE OPENING OF A SCAR
A WOUND THAT HAS BEEN SHUT
FROM THE BITTER TOUCH OF MAN
FOR SEVERAL AGED MILLENNIUM
WAY BEFORE OUR STAND
UNLEASHED OUT OF DARKNESS
AWARDED PROPER EFFECTS
AGAIN GIVEN AUTHORITY
OVER ANY LIVING SUBJECT
ALLOWED TO WALK AMONG US
DURING OUR EACH AND EVERY DAY
SO THAT IT MAY KEEP AN EYE
ON THOSE EASILY FRAY

ROWDY REPUBLIC

POSITIONING ITSELF IN HISTORY
TO BE REMEMBERED BY THE BOOK
MOLDED AS THE ULTIMATE MEMORY
OF NONE OTHER THAN THE CROOK
THE MASTERMIND BEHIND EVERYTHING
EVEN REMOTELY LINKED TO MAYHEM
OF ALL MISCHIEF AND DESPAIR
BROUGHT ON BY A SINGLE STEM
A PARASITICAL ROOT
THAT SPROUTED UNTO THIS UNIVERSE
COMMENCING A LASTING LEGACY
OF PROVOKINGLY, VICIOUS SUBMERSE
OUTLINING NUMEROUS DESTINIES
THAT WILL INEVITABLY BE DILUTED
INTO SOMETHING WORSE THAN DEMISE
BUT COMPARABLE TO AN ILLUSION
A FRAGMENTED FILM OF NOTHINGNESS
SUBSCRIBED TO PROVEN EVIDENCE
OF A DEMOCRACY COMPOSED OF PEOPLE
LOYAL ONLY TO THEIR EMINENCE

DOCTOR DEMARE

OBSERVING THE DIABOLICAL DOCTOR DEMARE
WHILE HE WHISKS THE BRISK PRESERVATIVE OILS
DAINTILY DIPPING PACKS OF REMOVED CARCASES
CASING THEM IN LAMINANT TO PREVENT POTENTIAL SPOIL
MONITORING HIS EVERY MOVEMENT AND STUDYING HIS EVERY TWITCH
ATTENTIVELY GATHERING EACH GRUESOMELY, BIZARRE TREATMENT
IN WHICH HE ATTEMPTS TO RESOLVE COMMON HUMAN HAZARDS
WHILE JOYFULLY WATCHING EVERY TESTED PATIENT
CHOKED ON THEIR OWN IMPRISONMENT
NOT RUSHING TO PUT A SUDDEN STOP
TO THE OPERATIONS IN WHICH HE HAS PROMISED TO DO
I HIDE QUIETLY BEHIND A BULKY TABLE
WATCHING HIM SLAUGHTER A FEW
BUT THE POOR DOCTOR DEMARE
DOES NOT KNOW WHEN TO BREAK
OR SEE WHEN HE'S HAD ENOUGH
OF THE ESSENCE HE'S GOTTEN TO TAKE
FOR THERE SHALL ARISE A POINT
TO WHEN HE MUST GIVE UP
RELINQUISH HIS SELFISH MOTIVES
AND DISSATISFY HIS LUST
EVEN THOUGH THIS MUST BE SO
THE TORTUROUS DOCTOR DEMARE
WILL CONTINUE WITH HIS MISSION
ENSURING THAT EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD
THAT COMES IN THROUGH HIS DOORS
WILL DIE BY HIS INCISION

INCEST ISLAND

ENTWINED INSIDE A FABRICATED OASIS
THRIVING FRIVOLOUSLY WITH MANY MARVELS
ONES THAT KEEP YOUR EYES PRIED AT GLOOM
RELENTLESSLY CAUSING YOUR WITS TO SHRIVEL
CREATURES COMBUSTING INTO DECOMPOSING MUSH
PRIVATELY PERMEATING THROUGHOUT THE AUDIBLE ARENA
RETAINING RUDE AUDACITY AGAINST FLUSTERING BOLD
AS BUBBLING BOWLS OF SINGEING SATURATION
ILLUMINATE EVERY NAMELESS MARINA
SAILING SEAWARD AND INTO THE MISTY COASTS
WHERE THE SUNSET STALLS SLIGHTLY AWHILE
FLOWING DOWNWARD OFF THE WAVY WATERFALL
AS MYTHICAL MATTERS FORM THE NEARING ISLES
DISTURBING THE SLUMBERING JAWS OF GINORMOUS GLACIERS
SHIFTING SLEEPILY AS THEY ARE BROUGHT INTO MOTION
SQUARING AN ALMOST IMPERVIOUS ENTRANCE
AS IT WHISPERS TO THE SILENT SAILORS
SEEKING FICTIONAL REFUGE UNDER THE BREAST OF MYSTICAL EMOTION

EXILED DEFEAT

FOAMING FROGS AND FLAMMABLE FLIES
SPINNING AND SPIRALING OUT OF SPOOKY DISGUISE
CATTLE COUPLING OUT OF SHEER FEAR
PROTECTING THEIR YOUNG FROM UNNATURAL SURPRISE
DIFFERENT BREEDS OF COMMON GREENS
BROWNING AT THE SHINE OF PARANORMAL HIDES
WHILE BRAWNY BRIGADES OF PREPARED PRIESTS
DEVISE ATTACKS TO PROPOSE A COMPROMISE
UNDERESTIMATING SUCH UNCANNY COMPETITION
HAS RESORTED TO UNFAIR GAME
GIVING ONE OPPONENT OVER THE OTHER
LEVERAGE THAT CANNOT BE TAMED
TRIMMING THEIR NUMBERS BY FATAL CHANGE
ENABLING THOSE THAT HAD BEEN LEFT ALONE
TO QUARREL ONCE MORE FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
BUT BY PUTTING THEM AT THE FOOT OF THE THROWN
GRANTING EACH A CHOICE TO EITHER WALK OR STAY
NOT PROPOSING THE CONSUMMATION OF ANY ACCORD
BUT EVEN BEFORE THEY HAD PRESENTED A RESPECTABLE REBUTTAL
THEY HAD TROTTED OFF IN FRETFUL DISMAY

A PRINCE'S PET

COILED RAVINES WITH MULTITUDES OF COAL
AS POURING PULPY VIOLETS RAIN EXCEEDINGLY
WITH TREMBLING TIDES DOUSING WATERY FIRES
MAXIMIZING UNSEEN SPECTRAL EXPLOSIONS
OOZING MIXTURES OF CREAMY ORANGE GOOP
SQUIRTING MESSILY AS THE ORGANICALLY, BOMBARDED BARRIER
UPON THE SHORES OF THE UNCHARTED, HYDRATED MASTHEADS
ALTERS TRADITIONAL CURRENTS TOWARDS A HIGHLY DIVERSE DIRECTION
SUBMERGING INTO THE SPACIOUS INFERIOR
I THRUST AND PROPEL MYSELF PAST THE EXPANDING GAP
WEAVING ALARMINGLY BETWEEN THE CONTORTED CREVICES
ENCLOSING A VORACIOUSLY FORBIDDEN FOOTPATH
REFUSING REST, I ARRIVED AT MY DESTINATION
NOT WITHIN A CAVERN'S INDIGENOUS DOME
BUT INSTEAD BEING INSTANTLY CLEAVED
BY LUCIFER'S PRECIOUSLY PRAISED PET
LEVIATHAN