

## **Anasarca**

# **"Done In Our Name"**

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[based on "Done in our Name" by an unknown author]

I should have known  
We'd killed him  
Tuesday morning.  
I woke up strangely buoyant,  
Whisteling a song

As when I bent  
Over the dictionary's c's  
Boldface, at the corner,  
There to catch my eye,  
Were corpse candle, cauterize  
And condemnation, cyanide

I should have known then  
We'd killed him  
Should have sensed the  
Huge organism's  
Sly joy, cat's paw

Batting at his eye, in  
The chamber, out again  
Cranky machinery of revenge  
Grinding to and fro  
In the night  
In our name.

One headline read "REPRIEVE"

And just a block away  
Another edition shouted "EXECUTED."

It was done  
In our name.  
All our hands  
On the wheel  
That sealed him  
In the tomb.  
All our ears  
Echoing with  
It's metallic clang.

We all find ourselves  
Murderers now  
Participate in his death,  
No - even more than that  
We take part in his crime.

Others are saddened,  
Diminished or angry.  
But once it's done  
The clock has turned.

It doesn't matter  
What we said.  
A man, a boy, is dead.

It was done in the dark  
Tuesday morning  
In our name and all our hands

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