

Exhumed "Death Mask"

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A sombre study in an ashen shade of grey, The
haunting eyes of the lifeless
not yet rotten, Embalming fluid stave off incursive
decay, Chemicals course
through passages that life has forgotten, Preservatives
bubble and fume shades
of jaundice and amber, Sequestered alone in my
embalming chamber, Unknowing,
unseeing, and laid spread-eagle on the slab, A
lackluster piece of meat I
polish, scrub, and swab... Meticulously grooming and
brushing, clipping with
care, Each detail is attended to as I drag a comb
through the hair, I beautify
the blemished face of the deceased, In the hopes that
the bereaved will be
somewhat at peace... This is my endeavour of dubious
merit, My morbid
application of sleight of hand, A charlatan for the
mourning and timid, A
touch up artist for the dead, gone, and bland... To
sanitize the ghastly
countenance of death, Whose true rigors are best left
unseen, Powders,
puffs, and chemicals are all that is left, A corpse made
to strut, prance, and
preen... Romanticizing rigor mortis, and death be not
vain, Caked with layers
of powder, toner, and deceit, I vomit on the floor at
the leering, smiling
face, Leaving the deception not yet fully complete... My
make-up kit now
callously discarded, No more use for toners, blushes,
and rouge, Extracting
the tools of dissection, Forceps, scalpels, and pins I
eagerly peruse... A
sanguinary frenzy now ensues, Carving, rending, and
generally making a mess,
Carbonated embalming fluid foams from vacant
eyesockets, Splattering and
sullyng your sunday best... Ineptly mangled and
randomly remade, Taking a

stab at plastic surgery on human remains, Weaving a
wretched, fleshy tapestry
of gore, A collage of tongue, skin, blood, sinew, and
brain... Your face
stricken with total disfiguration, The dignity of death
now cruelly erased,
Somewhat innappropriately dressed for the somber
occasion, No pretense remains
as you're sent off to your wake...

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