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HCOM 434: Creative Publishing and Critical Storytelling

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Plague

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Plague

By Matthew Scott

When the times are dark and I'm left alone

To drone on and on

In my castle of ivory

What will I have gained

Besides the weight

This bulging set of new mass that has attached itself to me

Heavier and slower than any year before

What have I become

A pig that consumes all insight

A caterpillar inching toward every meal

A gluttonous beast that chews away the days

As days have tuned to months

As months have turned into eternity

Forever stopped

Like a lock placed on a clock

What have I lost

Within the frozen time

Not much

But I didn't have much to lose

By the time the chains came falling

All my bridges were burnt

Every rain check bounced

I was alone

Except for one Who snuck past my walls Who challenged every goblin inside my head Then there were two

Who trespassed inside my soul

Who came in like thieves in the night

Who tore down every red flag

Then there were three

Riding in on chariots of porcelain white

Sailing on ships made of love and acceptance

Soaring on wings of joy bringing delight

But

Now there is one

And only one

Distant waves have struck

And in a bid to survive

I climbed alone

For those wings came

Drag

For the chariots were too

Bright

For the ships have come

Crashing

No one to blame

But

My selfish

Pride

Now I look down

With emerald green

Eyes

All that could be mine

All that should be mine

The Eve of jealousy

Comes just as

The Morning sun rises from the depths of down below

How dare they grow

How dare they fly

How dare they change

Without ME

Don't they remember the joy

I brought

The banter I supplied

Yet they replace me before the hat can even drop

It festers and swirls

In the pit of my being

The green

Fecal

That shouldn't matter

But it does

For when you have endless time to do anything

You have endless time to stew in

Envy

My sins are many

I am no legion

For I am alone

The virus may be gone

But I am still a

Plague