

## So It Goes

If Hope Dies

this  
is a call  
to notice that  
which has gone unnoticed  
that all of us  
are walking wounded  
bearing hidden scars  
and subtle bruises  
the casualties of a war  
inside our hearts

we submit ourselves  
to abstract forces  
ruled by the concept  
that living is surviving

we are suffocating on  
our own tangled aspirations

mired down

by the restraints  
forced on us  
the fear and doubt  
that serves to crush

we can no longer take satisfaction  
in our suffering

now is the time to arm ourselves  
with the knowledge  
that we can achieve  
a state of independance  
one of personal anarchy

we can end this war

see past the darkened veil  
pulled over our eyes  
we will make the world at large  
recognize our cries

i will dedicate myself  
to reclaiming the disputed  
landscape of my soul

i will repel each  
incursion visited upon my spirit  
cast light upon  
the insidious decay of volition

surely, i do protest  
let this be a message  
that here i stand