

The Waiting Room

By A. C. Zito

You died

And the Angels

They sighed

For it was time for your purgatory

It wasn't a waiting room

Or the fires of Hell

But a room for breathing

Relaxing

Rebuffing

Take off your clothes

And lay down on this here table

Said God

And He went into another room while you did this

When He came back

A towel covered you

You were ready

To let

It hit you

Some knots in that back  
Some knots in your shoulders  
I know just what will do the trick  
And like that God went to work  
A work meant to hurt  
And you weren't ready  
But God's elbow was thrust down into your back  
All the same

Ow!  
Yow!  
The biting pain  
You thought you'd go insane  
But it was for what it was for  
The stain

The stain that blemished your soul  
That was an ink blot  
A hole  
And yes  
It had to be removed

Stacy's baby shower  
And Mr. Johnson's bike shop  
Where you stole a helmet

Taken from the top

And around the corner waiting for you

Was Sergeant Baker

The cop

The money taken from the bowl in the diner

And the lies told that made you look like what you were

A minor

The disrespect shown

When driving down 108

And what else was blown

Besides just your breath

The callous loss

And the empty blows

This wasn't just any massage

Said God

This was your faults

Your defaults

All shown

All you did that was sowed

And on and on it went

Forever the clock did tick

The remorse

The pity

Everything spent

What all was it for?

Why such a big dent?

Now

There there

Said God

It's almost over

Has the past really been won?

And now your heart's been sung

But your life

It was something to measure

But this is purgatory

This hasn't been for pleasure

And God lifted you to your feet

And whispered kind words

Said you were a treat

And sent you on your way

To Heaven

There you'll stay

For through all the pain

The misery

The emptiness you felt inside

The loneliness you did despise

God won you over

And the past will be the past

But you haven't been had

For you

Are

A fighter