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## Premonition

by Ali Jimale Ahmed

Dedicated

to those who translated a premonition into a reality.

Besieged by the gun singing lullabies  
Of freedom yet to come  
Pigeonholed to the far end of town

Where the ocean meets land  
Siyaad\* mourns the loss of his name  
Shed in symbolic diminishment

of power  
of diabolic ingenuity

of vulpine sinuosity  
of a shrinking hole of conspiracy  
of mendacious mediocrity

Too small to swallow anyone  
But he who dug the hole  
In the wee hours of the morning  
While people were dancing  
In rain by the Mandrake  
Jubilant, a curse lifted  
But never put to rest.

Thursday, Dec. 27, 1990

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\*Siyaad in Somali means "to increase or augment."