

THE HEADSTONE ARCADE

Death be nimble
death be quick
death deliver us without a trick

(for surely at every perceived ending
get ready to kiss the rump of the next beginning)

...as surely it's all beginning again

I'm a confluence man - an actor
a teller of tales
a laugher at your joy
a weeper at your wedding
I've stood by you at your waking hour
and breathed deep
of your mourning breath

for I have been there
between the stacked sheets of everyday
whispering to you
when you try to shake out yesterday

It was an innocent time
just like after waking
now the days take their toll
with all the lives they're taking

I reach out to you now
take you by the cusp to linger
on a few more moments
at least untill I have your trust

I offer you this:
for whilst we wait for the
binging lights and pops of victory bells
for the striking ball against
our own arcade stone
we must rejoice in the change
to be part of the glorious game

The arcade headstone
is alive with the splendor of death
and I hear the strings again
bouncing off the speaker and
trees beloved megahertz

So the game goes on
and the change of destiny drops another round
on the glass for another chance
to come ~~XXX~~ at your stone
for the last time

The immortal man and woman
 drink of the water
 to keep themselves alive forever
 only only time will demonstrate
 the awfulness of this

(Every inclination of
 man's heart is evil - Genesis 8:21)

Most times we don't even know
 who ~~XXX~~ in the hell we are
 and spend our days trying to
 solve ~~XXXXX~~ this answerless riddle

Feeding ourselves with picture shows
 and books and songs from the novel
 "How I Never Really Got Ahead
 Until I Picked Up a Gun"

and when we come through as
 wanderers souls arounds us mull over
 and wonder if everythings is alright
 "Everyone's concerned about you"
 when the asserter has their own problems
 keeping all the loose femurs in their closet

...dear friend "Everyone's concerned
 about you too"....

I guess I was screwed
 from the start
 I was dumb
 I had a heart

The one thing that
 is not like the others
 is the next thing we crave
 (as long as it be in line
 with the one that preceded)

and when the hype dies down
 will you be around
 will you make the sound
 to rouse me out

to push me to the verge
 to make me say
 "It IS such a beautiful day
 in this neighborhood
 the sun is out
 and I'm feeling good!"