

Civilian Casualty

I pay a hospital visit with her cat
hopeful of a cheer and a chat
trudging through crimson-stained floors
down the thronged corridors

I find her sick and bedridden
down to the bone
In plain sight, hidden
disposed of and alone

I watch her, helpless
as fate threatens a rout
mum and stony-faced, she lies
lips refusing to pout

cast aside like a shadow
famine dealing a blow
one with her fleece, ailing
succumbing to death's tailing.