

God Forbid: Laurie Wilson

I think you'd have no quarrels
With the argument that morals
Are a quandary for every sir and madam
We humans are guilt-ridden
With our lists of things forbidden.
It all began when Eve encountered Adam.

She met him in a garden
Where the maker wouldn't pardon
Any breaches of this new thing called morality.
Poor Adam had to grapple
With the thought that eating apple
Was a sin unique in its originality.

Pope Gregory the first
Made a list of all the worst
Of mortal sins that kept you out of heaven.
So now we had a medley
Of the ones that were most deadly
I wonder which of us have tried all seven?

It's nice to have the coolest
Sins arranged like a to-do list.
There's Wrath and Sloth and Envy, and you must
Remember Pride and Greed
But I think it's guaranteed
Our favourites would be Gluttony and Lust.

But now we're more enlightened
Than our forebears; we're not frightened
Of conduct that's forbidden in the bible.
We poets simply revel
In the culture of the devil;
I hope he likes my blasphemy and libel!