

Optic Obscure

By Mark Antony Rossi

we

worry too much

about the skirt

and the skin

while blind

to the stranger

within.

Dying 4 Dinero

By Mark Antony Rossi

Show me a man who wants understanding and I will show you a man with no guts.
I'll show you a man who will let his family starve lest he break some bastard's precious principle. I'll show you a man who stopped being a man the very moment he started fighting fair and stopped fighting for that face in the mirror.

Today is your darkest day destined to dart back and forth in a long loop of lost potential residing deep in rusty cavity that once stored your eternal soul.

Don't be impressed--- any fool can be honest.
Don't be jubilant--- any jerk can be loyal.

But don't back yourself in a corner by limiting how you can obtain the coin of the realm.

No hunger for the fearless. No guilt for the profane. The rape of regret will not touch your masculine frame if you just lift your tattooed hand against the sacred cows that dare graze on your plateau while you are dying 4 dinero.

Stop dying and start justifying that beating heart. Start right now.

Mark Antony Rossi bio: Mark Antony Rossi's poetry, criticism, fiction and photography have appeared in The Antigonish Review, Another Chicago Review, Bareback Magazine, Black Heart Review, Collages & Bricolages, Death Throes, Ethical Spectacle, Gravel, Flash Fiction, Japanophile, On The Rusk, Purple Patch, Scrivener Creative Review, Sentiment Literary Journal, The Sacrificial, Wild Quarterly and Yellow Chair Review. <http://markantonyrossi.jigsy.com>