

Stray Cat Café

By Dean Meredith

On a dreary day too poor for a name,
He dragged himself down to the little café,
Flat white and a paper, always the same,
He fumbled for coins and something to say,
His hand struck silver, but his mind no gold,
The coffee machine frothed a mocking hiss,
His soft fingers touched the counter so cold,
And there she was, a sunny shining miss,
All glowing with life and lighter than air,
Pink lemonade cheeks and strawberry lips,
A chef's hat hiding her blonde wistful hair,
Uniform jealously guarding her hips,
As soon as she smiled, his fears departed,
And that praise God was how it all started.

Street Music

By Dean Meredith

The city's his sheet music and lights his notes
And at the end of every line there's a bar
Where rain pisses razorblades on a cat tin roof
And he punches drunk through fresh chilled mist
With nothing but an old rolled blanket of shame
Steel wool beard rust stained and frozen with guilt
And he smells like a corpse down from the cross
And his holy mitts shake for no reason except habit
And his mind won't remember questions or answers
But somehow his lips shape words when needed
He knows it's a lie but the truth just the same
Can you spare me a dollar or two?
Can you mister anything will do?
My friend little sister anything will help
Get me back to my family my wife and kid
So long without me I miss them so much
Show me some kindness in a world without justice
And someday someday I will reward you
Thank you kind sir thank you dear lady
May angels from heaven bless you this day?
I'll remember you well in our last hours of judgement
I'll remember you well if I'm called as a witness
For though I may seem like the scum from the sewer
I'll have you know I'm the King of the Turds!

The Letter

By Dean Meredith

And yes I smelled the paper
Of the letter that you wrote me
It started with a saying
That at first I couldn't follow
But then I understood
Or thought I did

And it was you
Giving part of you to me
And every part is sacred
Vulnerable and true
I love beauty and
That's all I see in you

Dean Meredith bio: Dean Meredith is an Australian poet, philosopher, and genius. He is a graduate of the University of Western Australia; and his various works have been published in chap-books and journals domestically and abroad. Love, loss, and human nature are common themes. Major influences include Alfred Noyes, Sylvia Plath, Edgar Allan Poe, and WB Yeats. Dean's collected poems are due for release some time this year.