



stilled —skeltonic verse

Lungs flare—breath's spare.
Fixed eyes stare where
Rats wage warfare.
Insect hordes pair
Side-by-side. They're
Poised to draw their
Starved maws wide. Tear
Mortal share, bear
Frenzied fanfare.
Light's unbidden.
Scuttling's hidden.
Maggots' nascent
Hunger's blatant.
Swarming violence,
Quelled defiance.
Flesh subsidence,
Corpse compliance.
Beasts' alliance
Forges silence.

—mindy watson