

The Imagined Ends of Jimmy Corman

*Poisoned by a pencil point
to spite his stupid teacher,
Smashed by stacks of psalms
to stop the scolding of the preacher,
Torn in twain while waiting for
the inattentive doormen,
These are the imagined ends
of cheerless Jimmy Corman.*

*His alfredo was infected
when his dad denied dessert;
His mother suffocated him
inside a stuffy shirt.
His brother's brutal beatings
smash his skull and snap his spine
And he never fails to suffer
when his folks say he'll be fine.*

*At school, he's speared and disemboweled
when sent to see the nurse,
His playground pals impale him
and vacation's even worse:
A country trip has biting bugs,*

*a beach has crawling crabs,
And in the city he is crushed
by countless careless cabs.*

*For Jimmy knows his unforeseen
undoing will, at last,
Show everyone his presence
once they see he's purely past.
Except for lovely Lily Lake,
who, when he speaks, will answer.
For lovely Lily, Jim will wait
and die of toenail cancer.*