

ADDED ENTRIES

Inaugural by Peter McDonald

Ask not
why in the subway
the old man sleeps in the cold

Nor why
the child's back
is pocked with phosphorus burns

Ask not
why bloated fish die
floating on rivers of foam

Nor why
a nine caliber bullet
ripped rapper Ray-Z's throat

Ask not
why the leopard pads
through stumps by a dry logging road

Nor why
nine body bags
lie rain soaked by the troop plane home

Ask not
why the convict tycoon
smokes hand-rolled cigars in the exercise yard

Nor why
in bleak February
pipes freeze in the projects impoverished

Nor why
such a cold rage seers
the heart with self-inflicted burns

Nor why in the end
the thorn-crowned man
hangs so helpless on a gibbet-splintered pole