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Respect to a Dead Dog

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RESPECT TO A DEAD DOG
It was bumped softly
enough to be injured.
Humans do not care enough
to stop —
or help.
They can not bother.
It is left alone,
helpless,
to be hit again.
Smashed, mangled, tangled.
Blood.
Soft howls for a last chance
at life.
His lifeless body molded to
the pavement like gum
casually placed underneath a
soda-bar counter,
waiting for someone to discover,
and take the time to scrape off.

— LuAnn VanderLind

PEOPLE AND FACES
People sometimes sell funny faces.
They sometimes aren’t sure they’re real.
They can listen to everything,
Instantly comprehend anything,
Believe in Nothing.
People sometimes wear funny faces.
They sometimes wish they weren’t real.
They’ll help any man,
Aid all of Humanity,
Won’t love just you.
People sometimes wish they had happy faces.
They sometimes wish they could be real.
They could love any man,
Help all men,
Believe in Something real.

— Robert A. Wierenga