

PAIN



Fear has given way to pain  
 We ache, we grieve  
 We moan, we plead  
 We groan for respite

Enough the agony, sufficient the suffering  
 Sated with the death of the innocent  
 Riddled with the waste of a nation  
 We are overcome

The city has yielded to the village  
 Apartment buildings have extended to house and  
 hovel

The polluted urban atmosphere has infiltrated the  
 fresh mountain air

The people are one, the same

An identical scene is reenacted  
 Refugees blindly seeking shelter  
 The hungry under siege  
 The helpless afraid of massacre

The Tenacious endure  
 Living in spite of death  
 Hunchbacked and weary  
 Shuffling and groping  
 Inebriated by the torpid fatefulness of the East  
 Rockets fall, generators hum  
 We stumble over a festering rat  
 Sickened we step away  
 Tightening the shelter belt around our minds

blotting out reality  
 defeated, lost

There has never been a painless war  
 There has never been a fear-less war  
 Stones break, lives fall  
 Trees burn, civilization dissolves  
 Into chaos  
     darkness  
         the clatter of the gun

We hurt at the mirage of peace  
 Proleptic courage lies dormant  
 The earth is made barren  
 Charred by deadly weapons

Our reveille has not yet sounded  
 The bugle black and rusty  
 It is the break of dawn  
 Jets are screaming; we awake to the torture

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 Beirut 1983

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