1984

Euthanasia

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Hans Verhagen · Netherlands

EUTHANASIA

An age-old idea, the fruits of Coca-Cola

From 1 idea death-penalty has risen, in every cell
a different infection

Preliminary detention gives room for coalescence

Clearly visible in slow-motion
: a surprising embryo,
4 inches of attraction to the moon

The latest medicine: radiation with the eye
of a slaughtered calf

Thus religious mania spreads

Everyone his hare-lip

Every miscarriage bears its own anecdotes,
tuberculosis according to capacity

Dressed only in the vitamins A to D your
contagious diseases through the world

& in every structure the chemical remains of 1 idea,
of himself,
life-sized as no idea and nearly prewar:

human being!
The scar that hides you, the scar
behind which you are hidden

...

After last night's horrors

(Little difference from every other
night's horrors)

...

There's a lot of poetry emotion in the world
:a small bunch of flowers,
the smell in which syringes soak

Via your trained organs it seizes you
like a new order
: love

...

No new orders will be given hereafter

...

A car tire couldn't be faster, 30,000 miles
& your body-work is rotting

& the cement-mixer of history whirls on

...

translated by Peter Nijmeijer