

## Coiffeur

Having a new barber,  
new barbershop hasn't  
happened in decades.

Not since Blood,  
the snoop dogg  
lookalike, been  
going to the same

sharp edge-cutters  
since I was a boy.

Sacred barbershops  
in the black community,  
old place of sports bets  
& bickering battles born

here. Yet, I can hardly go  
back to my old one,  
too many memories

with my father from yonder  
years spent there. This death

hits different than Blood's,  
this day seemed like it would  
never come. But alas it did  
when he forgot how to eat.

Sitting in the chair in silence,  
like my dad before me.

## Autobiography

Everyone deserves love,  
even the five year old

dog, left at the animal shelter.  
Everyone deserves love,  
the stray kitten living  
for scraps on the street

until he stumbles with  
flea & tick problems.  
Everyone deserves love,

the bunny born on a farm,  
having never known the outside  
outside of his instinctual fears.  
Everyone deserves love,

the man broken by his lost love,  
looking to find another. Everyone  
deserves love, the woman diagnosed

with an autoimmune ailment. They  
fall for one another, become married  
then months later he became  
diagnosed with a brain illness.

Still she sat by his bedside.  
Later they took on furbabies,  
& more of them because

everyone deserves love,  
no reason why, they just  
do. & they lived happily  
ever after forever & ever.

Rise

My father lived  
long enough  
to see his

adopted  
son/sun  
become  
someone's  
spouse,  
their reason  
for rising  
despite  
the mourning/morning.

## Good Nature

Cat slaps the rabbit, claws  
not drawn, no display for  
seeking blood. Kitten pounces  
on him but he just continues

to eat going about his business.  
They play like this for some time  
& the bunny receives treats for

his patients with him. Kitty comes up  
from the hare's home, to look around,  
find more food which isn't meant  
for animals. Kitten doesn't know,

dog comes running around the corner.  
Kitty runs from hound looking for meals,  
mutt scared of stairs, won't go down them.

Canine doesn't even remember there's  
a lapin there. Dog afraid of stairs, cat  
afraid of dog. Rabbit not afraid of patience.  
None of them starve from waiting their turn.