

THE BODY

Kelli Dunlap

Gray skin, flaccid, loose
Bruising from the hangman's noose.
Blackened tongue, red rimmed eyes
Murdered for another's lies.
Lips draw back, gums recede
Nose and ears begin to bleed.
Expanded center, gases build
Vile excrement to be spilled.
Tightened muscles, rigid pose
Silently the casket's closed.
Empty parlor, unmarked plot
A century later, a crime forgot.

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