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## Beautiful Lesson of the I

Frances Brent

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## MAN AND DEMONS

He drew whimsical soldiers  
with escape in mind.

Lowered his sleeve to the latticed  
skin of a pond.

The heart beneath his burlap shirt  
grew inflamed in grief.

In pity the armature of Love  
was severed from his volatile conscience.

A spirit presented the gouge of ear stumps,  
egg of a face.

Bells were played  
by the one with black teeth.

Ghosts took their place  
in tapestry gardens.