

One Sick, Two Sick, Red Sick, Blue Sick

by Bill Yarrow

I found a diseased fish
wedged between
some boulders
near the pier
I pulled it out
its left white eye
well beyond compassion
its shrunken shank
nolo contendere

I held it in my hands
as if it were a gift
from a maniac
I cut it in half
with a delicate knife
I lifted the skin
I peeled it back
I peered under
and all was...

sarcoma sarcoma
melanoma melanoma
carcinoma carcinoma
sarco más mela no más
carci no más
sarcoma sarcoma
melanoma melanoma
carcinoma carcinoma
sarco más mela no más
carci no más
sarcoma sarcoma

melan**oma** melan**oma**
carcin**oma** carcin**oma**
sarco *más* **mela** *no más*
 carci *no más*
 I dropped it
 It bubbled
 stubbornly
among the rocks

