

Alexander & Diogenes

by XXXX

Alexander, Macedonian Boy-King,
having arrived at conquered Corinth, said:
"I would like to meet that famous madman
this land of wisdom-loving fools has bred."

They met him in the market at high noon
lying in a barrel, dirty and bare.
The Boy-King said: "Stray dog! What is your wish?"
and the philosopher spoke in despair:

"You do me honor, sire!
I do indeed have but one.
Kindly step to the left.
You are blocking my sun."

In awe at the wisdom
this vegabond possessed,
To Aristotle, his tutor,
he thus boldly confessed:

"If I could be
anyone but me
I'd rather be
Diogenes--

Never to tire
of lust or desire,
fearing neither hellfire
nor the seas."

