

## THE FUNERAL

by Timothy J. Muise

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I cried today,  
at the death of my friend.  
She was brilliant,  
my only chance at survival.

All is lost,  
as she leaves this cruel world.  
Her smile gone,  
and I cannot breathe.

How she glowed,  
everything was possible.  
No more light,  
true darkness now closes in.

Her name Hope,  
the prisoners only salvation.  
Wearing a badge,  
they have laid her to rest.

The coffin closed,  
the death so ugly.  
Dismembered and raped,  
I no longer know her.

Her blood red,  
staining every city.  
Her void deep,  
destroying our future.

Let her rest,  
missed from my core.  
May she rise,  
like a Phoenix supreme.

I love Hope,  
though I miss her each day.  
She still lives,  
in all that we do.

I smiled today,  
I knew it was my Hope,  
She came back,  
and we can now break free.