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## Haunt of the Horse

Stephen Massimilla

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# Haunt of the Horse

by Stephen Massimilla

Where do you wander, horse of cadaverous steel,  
your rider half-dead to the rustling world? Up the road  
awaits the day and the dale, the friend, the meal,  
the fiend in the hall. In the woods, a fading coal  
warms the maid and the grail. Durer portrays  
his knight astride a bloodless beast: the son,  
whose youth assures us less than the horse dismays.  
Assurance wakes, loves its Father one to One,  
but under the dark rings of mail, Death inquires  
when the blade will spring to cut him free . . .  
to bolt from his wretched hideaway. Night squires  
the knight toward skeletal trees, but how cunningly  
the Maker cast a drop-dead gorgeous steed  
in an ageless gaze for our dying age to read.



*Photo courtesy artchive.com*

