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Epicurus

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Asphalt Skin

Chelses Charles

The asphalt scuffs the soles of feet
And echoes dreary thoughts
Of insurrection,
Misdirection,
Tearing down the locks

Walking towards them on the street
Catching hostile eyes

Continuing,
Though the fear slithers into the stomach
Gripping and squeezing the breath from both
lungs
Suffocating on anxiety
Coming near them on the street
But still keeping your distance

They come closer
Your heart thrashes against your ribcage
You think
About what
They could do
To you
And you're both infuriated and terrified

A meter away,
You turn on heel
And step into the gutter
While they stroll past on the clean pavement