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## The Red Tide

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*NSU University School*

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## **The Red Tide**

*Ross Karp*

The reef is alive.

Each polyp bleeds like an open wound  
Spitting a font of crimson seeds  
That take to the tide  
And ride  
With deadly speed  
To the gills of the fish in the ocean!

The red cloud passes over  
Like the shadow of a shark swimming at the apex  
Leaving behind a wave  
Like a grave  
Filled with choking fish lying  
Ruby and white  
Their poisoned fins supplicating the scarlet sunset!

Alive! The tide is alive!  
It is filled with veins, filled rushing with the color  
of death.  
Russet marauders blooming like a burning firework,  
Each spark joining the school of pestilence  
Spreading  
Farther and deeper, a net of sinew  
Sickness, expanding towards the water.

It bursts and blurts, spreading against the shore!