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## Sheep's Head on a Plate

Michael Cadnum

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## Cadnum: Sheep's Head on a Plate

### SHEEP'S HEAD ON A PLATE

Michael Cadnum

Flayed, emptied, stripped  
to red carpentry, these remains  
are ready for the fire.  
Why were we ever in doubt?  
We lived to celebrate,  
and now there is no evidence of  
the slaughter-mallet, the skinner's knife,  
or even of the hooks that  
suspended the sacrifice—only this  
bounty, eye to eye.