

Southpaws Should Be Drowned At Birth

they used to say
southpaws should be drowned at birth
because their fighting style
was unnatural

instead of jabbing with their left
and punching with their right
they used the left
as the powerhouse

they stepped on their right toe
instead of their left
to gain momentum

they were backwards
in an already backwards
sport

and it amazing me
how something so beautiful to watch
could also be so brutal

but that's because
boxing is the only natural
thing there is-

human beings
aren't as advanced
as we like to believe we are

all our art exhibitions
and wine tastings
and fashion shows

are accompanied by
mass murders
suicide bombs
and hot and cold wars

for every Van Gogh
there is a Hitler

for every lovely perfume
there is mustard gas

for every sonnet
there is a grisly death

we are not as far along
as we pretend to be

men will get drunk
and kill their pregnant wife
with a claw hammer

women will cut off their
husband's penis
while they sleep

there is so much more bad than good
but there is some good
it is just getting swallowed
like long fingers around a baseball
or
the boxing glove
wrapping around
a skull

we are animals
that walk and talk and
drop bombs on one another

who want to make the other guy bleed

but we can't help it,
it is in our bones to fight

soldiers who die
in senseless battles
are thought of as heroes

thousands gather around to
put two men in a ring
to fight

and the winner is hailed
as a great champion-

When I watched my first boxing match
I thought
“Oh, how stupid. Just two men
duking it out for no reason?
How dumb must you be to watch this shit?”

and you know what?
I can't get enough of it

hearing the crunch of their nose
seeing their blood squirt,
their skin ripping like an orange peel...
it's just getting good

and I watch this
with a sense of guilt

but at least
I don't say
I'm good.