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# Inflammatory Thoughts

Frank De Canio

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# Inflammatory Thoughts

by Frank De Canio

Rife fantasies are toxins in the blood,  
which mobilize the white cells in my brain  
to thus articulate a surging flood  
of mental images. They form a strain  
of poetry intended to contain  
the progress of the virulent disease.  
In fact, such mental processes inflame  
the very system they're presumed to ease  
from torment with a regimen of verse.  
But these engender more diseased conceits  
and fantasies that make the sickness worse  
until contagion rides iambic beats.  
Thus, lest the virus runs its fatal course,  
it must be extirpated at its source.

