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Sadism Balanced

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SADISM BALANCED

(For Lynn Christopher)

*"I cannot marry", cried Lewis in his teens,
knowing the cruelty in his nature bred,
knowing the dark paths lying between
his whip-drawn, moody heart and moral head.*

*"I cannot marry"--but yet he did at last,
four decades later, with a dying wife,
bearing her cancered pain to give her rest,
carrying joy in that exchanged life.*

--Joe R. Christopher