

## POEM

## Limbo

they parade through the hostile check-in,  
the entrance  
wrapped in grey,  
shrouded in silence  
a mournful dance in limbo  
daily

sad, expressionless faces,  
there is nowhere else to go but here,  
the destination one,  
the departure unclear  
delayed  
daily

they wake in her unquiet presence,  
wait  
her restless peace,  
agitated  
they *promised* she would go  
lingering  
daily

her weakened lungs  
shattered and battered  
a cloak  
of smothered ash  
weak and heavy and tired, thick  
her every breath  
saturated and hungry  
a struggle, her lungs  
held open only by the machine  
now turned  
off

awaiting take-off, exit  
daily

each breath a hope of final rest  
each breath a reminder of impending death  
on-going  
delayed  
daily

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