

Poem

Arachnoid Mater

unforgettable but
 beyond
 recollection
 a single sanguine sample
 declares its delinquency
dolor rubor
 the fulmination inside her head
 crimson crawling along her silken web
 wracking nerves
 a family waits, wonders, and bargains
 inside, strangers purport to understand
 humans and their humours they hope
 anatomy, capricious as it is, will now
 permit them entry
 anaesthesia standing by, Neith reminds them yet again
 a moment astray and the web is unwound
 they bate their breaths so that she may breathe

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