

Wilderness House Literary Review 4/4

Denis Emorine (translated by Brian Cole)

Death has sealed his childish eyes

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On his face
a grimace or a smile
who knows?
How old is he, five perhaps?
In the dust
a few steps away
Teddy Bear the murderous accomplice
is smiling still
it is left to the soldiers,
other toys,
to eliminate
a few more children
before going home on time
Forget the screams
that precede death
what is the point
since they are always the same
Some way off
a soldier is sleeping peacefully
So young almost a child
with in his heart
the satisfaction
of a duty done