

Sonnet Scroll

Missteps

By Bruce Bennett

The tiniest missteps can lead to ruin.
One instant when your eye is off the road.
One thing undone unravels to undoing.
One debt unpaid can lose you all you're owed.
And there's no way to plan for this beforehand.
It simply happens. Happens. Then, it's done.
There's no recourse, reprieve, reset. It's over.
Your world's a different world now. Nothing, none
of all your dodges, stratagems, evasions,
can come now to your aid. That die's been cast.
What used to serve your turn on all occasions
will serve your turn no longer. What will last
is what you did one instant without knowing,
or thinking, where it was that you were going.