

e os *n.* the Latin word for bone;
a hard short word
that ends with a hiss
and the drooling memory of meat

I tendere, tensus *v. tr.* also Latin; to hold out,
offer, proffer, promise
in a show of apparent kindness,
the leash or rolled-up
newspaper hidden
behind the back

s ose *v. tr.* in French, dare;
to pluck the leaf of strife
faint heart never
sees the day when
an end to all this

n tension *n.* common enough these days,
plagued with unvoiced
troubles or ashy fear
I would, but what if?
what disguised meaning innuendoes
the silent language of disabled bodies

e ostensible *adj.*
a hungry dog who
says *I won't bite*
one two
many times

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