

n  
e  
forget  
v  
e  
r

our love our hope our sorrow is dead  
hear loud bang outside your neighbour  
empty eyed pounding on your door  
she pleads Marina will you bury my  
son in your backyard please you have  
a big backyard Marina I cannot let  
unhinged dogs smell dig for my kin  
I will rebury him in a cemetery I will  
kissing your hands your fingers she  
whispers he was a good boy brought  
me tulips for my birthday he was  
so smart he spoke English Marina  
what is dignity when you watched  
a man lay on the ground for days  
like a stifled Antigone forbidden hiding  
in a cave counting hours to bury bodies  
of people I know in Borodianka our  
remains lay like a tragic décor pleading  
for freedom never forget Holodomor  
never forget gulags never forget children  
stolen from homes they invade on land  
that is not their own to sow death fast  
and slow they shot him in the back  
he was walking away they say they came  
here to liberate us then reload  
hope is hollow like a detonated grenade  
somewhere it already exploded  
please let me bring him and dig  
a grave for my first-born a heart  
that hurts is a tautology in war