

Lucky Planet Mars

if all Earth's sentience
in one merciful instant
blinked out, no warning—

no more hunger, pain
no war, torture, mother's grief
no child's helpless cries

no shooter's hate crimes
no victim's screams of terror
no predator's bites

what pleasures and joys
of life's lottery winners
should warrant such hell?

cancel life's blueprint?
antinatalists' wonder:
lucky planet Mars?



Photo: Enviably lifeless surface of Mars
Photo credit: NASA