

Despair vs. Joy

Sunday's *New York Times*
spread on our breakfast table,
"all news fit to print"

innocents suffer
death by bombs, hunger, hate, fate
far away from here

democracy grief
dampens my election hope,
fearing dirty tricks

yet, joy, too, resides
in peace, plenty, safety, love
—my cup runs over

these dissonant truths
battle for the higher ground
as my coffee cools



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