

Doug Holder

Turkeys circling a dead cat

*** There was a news report that turkeys circled a dead cat for hours on a street in a suburban community outside of Boston.

A shocked Pink Flamingo
stares from a well-trimmed lawn
as they endlessly circle in this Black Mass
tail to tail.

They tread
for the dead.

Worshippers of Satan?
birds of a dark,
nefarious
ominous feather
that endlessly
stick together,
around this totem
of a splayed black cat.

Not toil or trouble
will burst this ritual's bubble.

Doug Holder's work has appeared in *North of Oxford*, *Lips*, *Hazmat*, *Poetry Motel*, and others. He teaches creative writing at Endicott College in Beverly, MA.