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### CHEERS, DEATH

Death  
takes your breath.  
Rests your head  
on her breasts.  
Lays hands on  
your last days.  
Sighs at your  
cries.

She prevents your  
rotting alive.  
Teaches you when  
you need to die.  
She comes for ye?  
Exclaim, "*Kampai!*"<sup>1</sup>  
Offer her thanks  
of wine and rye.  
Kiss her like  
Judas on the sly.  
When she declines  
don't ask why.  
Say farewell.  
Say goodbye.

<sup>1</sup> *Kampai* is the Japanese equivalent to the expression, *Cheers* as in a toast.