Bullets from the Heart

Matthew Diomede

For Lieutenant D. Dobbin, USMC

The dead we always have with us
like bullets of Viet Nam
buried in the dust,
empty of gunpowder—
a ray of sunlight
shines in the thickness
of the heat.

They shine in that sunlight
bringing us memories.

Diomede served six years in the Marine Corps Reserve, but never went to Viet Nam. His prose, poetry, and translations have been published in a number of magazines, including The Centennial Review, Nimrod, *and* Kansas Quarterly.

THE MAILER REVIEW, VOL. 15, NO. 1, FALL 2021. Copyright © 2021. The Norman Mailer Society. Published by The Norman Mailer Society.