# Grudge match

poetry is a competitive business,

not for the weak or faint of heart.

I am the Midnight Deconstructionist,

the most fearsome poet of all.

I will body-slam your free verse into the mat,

dump your prose-poem on it’s head,

piledrive your villanelle with a rude elbow.

Some may say that poetry

is a put-up job,

that we always know who will win

and that the competition is fake.

I challenge any of you knock-kneed

weak-ass wannabe wordsmiths

to a ten-minute, no-holds-barred

cage match, and we’ll settle

our differences

like real poets.