

## **Fish story**

I hooked a little minnow here  
To celebrate a marlin.

The big fish splashed  
A mighty wave of ink,  
But sadly floundered  
Later in the drink.

The trophy  
Turned to bait  
As gaze aimed  
In a barrel;  
Yet story end  
May console  
For my obscure dry  
(and not shark-battered)  
little minnow landing.

April 6, 2021

Inspired by my memories of reading The Old Man and the Sea in my 10<sup>th</sup> grade English class, circa 1970 and by what I have recently learned about the end of Ernest Hemingway's life. Hemingway's tragic death has suggested to me that I have been blessed with a not-too-traumatic life and happy obscurity as an unfamous teacher and father of four.