

SECOND PLACE

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Greed

Gold
Not silver
Gold
Yours is mine
Everything is mine
Everything must be mine
I don't have enough.
Enough.
It's never enough
For me
For me it's never enough
I need more
More
More than this
There has to be more than this
What do you have?
Give it to me
I need it
I need it more than you
It's useless to you,
Let me have it
Give it to me
I want it
Want
I want everything
Of yours
Of everyone's
Everything of everyone's must be mine
I need it.
Give it to me

Judge's remarks:

The poet manages to capture the very essence of greed. The short, simple, demanding quality of greed--and its futility. There will never be enough of anything! Although a tight, emphatic I addresses a you that is both singular and all-inclusive, this direct, almost-clipped poem is also a clear and scathing social commentary. At all levels, this poem works.