

Athens

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Marinas, graffiti & sleeping dogs
Closed fronts and weeping smog
Olive trees and traffic jams
Yellow taxis and modern trams
Green rimmed rails of glinting steel
Hollow eyes of those who feel
Chaos greets at every corner
Signage foreign more disorder
Proud and passionate of their past
Greeks in sorrow as their country fasts
Ruined streets of 60's order
Flanked by history especially under
Narrow flats like Lego build
Preposterously perched on single plots
Reflect a greed no civic pride
Home of democracy crushed by greed
Reflections of a broken breed
Nation state in disarray
Clutches at a past a holy mount to pray
Rising proud from man's disorder
Majestic rock in nature's order
Topped by a marble ruin of ancients
Restore the site and recover pride
Disappointment shared by all who see
Echoed in the voice of those share

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The proud history and recent despair
Olympus has frowned on the city
Locked in poverty and no longer pretty
Whitewashed walls Aged to grey
Piraeus the gateway of the sea
Sea lanes busy with assorted craft
Blue eyes green with tears
Parthenon at a distance
Reflections of man's persistence