

Those first eight years of the new millennium  
where ineffectual government was forcing  
millions of desperate people a year overseas

a man in his twenties was writing polemic (Stirner  
Schopenhauer Nietzsche and Marx open on his desk)  
which though a little suspect around the edges

for emphasizing individual will  
and group manipulation (not the extreme  
personalization of Christian salvation

but a realistic understanding  
of crowd psychology) were nonetheless  
taken for orthodox doctrine in Milan

where a hundred militant workers  
were recently killed four hundred wounded  
by government forces on behalf of capital —

intrinsic laws of economic production  
the eventual rise to power of a new class  
to supersede advanced capitalism

the state abolished along with the institutions  
servicing its established oppression  
(monarchy parliaments the church

the banks trusts cartels the military  
the old-school nationalism the propertied  
exploit to produce collective bloodletting)

that state that come the revolution  
devolves into fraternal productive communes  
owning property collectively

transforming itself into community  
animated by moral purpose creating  
for man an elevated condition of life

unattainable by other means  
than *violenza* — perpetual peace degrading  
the fundamental virtues of man which emerge

only in the dark light of spilled blood —  
compromise and reform at best a slow  
suicide at worst those persuaded

they would gain freedom by pacifism  
or selling themselves into collaboration  
finding themselves ever less themselves.