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## Stalin's Spider (excerpt)

Said Stalin to the spider,  
as it crawled onto his knee,  
"Come live with me and be my love  
and we shall all the pleasures prove  
that webs and traps and show trials proffer—  
All of that and more I offer...  
And so they lived together,  
like two birds of a feather—  
the spider weaving webs of silk,  
and Stalin webs of lies.  
For spiders do not trap their ilk  
they're only after bugs,  
but Stalin put them all away,  
accused of being thugs.