

missed

it was a wednesday morning
and so it began
behind a door with a highly qualified name plate
a stage one concoction
of a fatal covenant of convenience

*there was no tunnel to be seen
nor a light*

he was a husband born
with the moon in the fifth house
alone with his fear
an innocent trust
made helpless
in the presence of a stubborn expert opinion

*precious time elapsed
not long
but long enough*

he was a father
who would never say 'no'
this was not a one-time bad night theatre review
or a record executive missing a smash hit pop group
not a glitch in a forecast of seasonal weather
it was a moment of life and death
his children deserved better

*with worst fears confirmed
one stage led to another
and then another
and then another*

he was also a brother
who could still not accept

that at this the ultimate stage
there was nowhere left to go
his sisters were heart-broken
he was their only brother

*with so much left to give
and so much left to live for
Mercury was aligned with Venus
he would be greatly missed*