

DEMOCRACY CEDED

A democracy governed by
Representatives elected
On the shoulders of oligarchs
Will be ruled by rich oligarchs.

Power, like freedom, once ceded
To another, cannot with ease
Be pulled back, for the powerful
Will cast the weak into the heart

Of darkness and mock their struggle.
It's not only the vote that counts.
If the oligarchs have the voice,
There also will be the power,

Keith R. Parris
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