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Jesse James in Wax

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Jesse James In Wax

Staring back into the opaque
eyes of your bodily twin,
with lustre-less buttons of shell
said to contain your essence,
I recall the rebel soul
ravaging free, a stolid desert
tempest and kiss of death
to the very men who with words
cast you immortal, the outlawed
ambassador of the American spirit;

and I wonder if they haven't captured,
in their myopic art form,
the piercing and blinding emptiness
behind dreaming eyes.

Itar