

Lenny Bias was the first round draft choice of the Boston Celtics and the third pick of all college players in 1986. He died of cocaine poisoning the night before he was to appear with Celtic brass at the press conference acknowledging Lenny as heir to the Celtic Dynasty.

Len Bias

Radio announcements
autopsy pronouncements
a nation staggers,
media moments fleeting
shock us to the bone

The language that he knew
was rhythm, flight and hope
the language that he owns
is none of these and more
from all to none,
a flash
Lenny Bias gone

A life behind of constant motion,
air and wood and wins
a death surrounding all emotion
nation on the edge,
of disbelief
how could it be,
the promise of a future censored
just below the surface bleed

Waiting to embrace
Celtic colors green and white
where skill and time and art and sweat
were meant for all each other,
hearts go out to what was you
to what was us
to what we knew were chosen times
now future past,
a heart burns out
only a clue
of who could stir the Garden ghosts to dance
anticipating what was due . . .

The whims of fate a mystery
believe they never lie
Lenny Bias
Lenny Bias

try this one on for size