

Never Again

The children who are spared
are left to weep in the
empty night of sorrows
Left to scatter and run
like rabbit and deer
the hunter draws near
He is an ex-soldier
a racist, a white supremacist
an ex-con, a jealous lover
a fired worker, a misfit
a patient, a classmate
an 18 year old man
carrying an AR-15
with live rounds to
annihilate despair
"Never again!" cry the people
As the hands that pull the trigger
tighten their grip on their
power over life and death
Never again, again and again
Echo the mantra of the living
Sickened by the blood on
the tee-shirts, jeans
backpacks and books of
their children stiffening on
the mounting altar of names
and weary of the Grim Reaper
who claims that Death *is*
the right of the people and
the law of the land

By Genny Lim

