

Game 5 of the 2015 World Series

(pitcher perfect through 8 innings)

FRANK DE CANIO

“Call no man happy till after his death,”
Montaigne wrote. If, Harvey had died before
the ninth and not professed a second breath,
the Kansas City A’s might not have scored
the tying runs that helped them win the game
against the Mets. Yet, Harvey’s taken out
after he gives up an opening walk,
and the next batter manages to clout
a double. Hence he feels he shouldn’t balk
at managers affording him relief
pitching before he’s forced to brook the blame.
He seethes inside the dugout wracked with grief.
Instead of sitting out the victory
the pitcher in relief might have secured
to complement his valedictory,
a loss in extra innings was assured.
I watch him as his heart appears to break,
while I’m no less despondent at the wake.