

**Peter Sparks**

## **Between Life and Death**

*Extracts from an email received on Monday 28 October from  
'INTERPOL INVESTIGATION POLICE':*

*We are writhing to know if it's true that you are DEAD. Because we received a notification from Mr. Joseph Grant today of USA stating that you are DEAD and that you have giving him the right to claim your US\$500,000 fund ... as compensation to the lose you insured from hoodlums scammers. Mr. Joseph Grant stated you died on a ghastly CAR accident last three days ... we cannot proceed with him until we reconfirm by not hearing from you after 3 working days...Kindly get back to this office for immediate commencing of your fund release...All we need to confirm now is your been DEAD or still Alive? Joseph's message brought shock to our hearing and we just can't proceed until we don't hear from you after 3 days then we say: MAY YOUR SOUL REST IN PERFECT PEACE" May the peace of the Lord be with you wherever you may be now?*

*YOUR JOY AND SUCCESS REMAINS OUR GOAL.*

*Regards Deputy Director*

*Wayne Salzgeber'*

Dear Wayne of Interpol: I have your mail.  
Your writhing at my death has deeply touched  
me. Though unknown to you, still you bewail

my loss – but ask my cooling corpse to rush  
you finite proof 'within three working days'.  
In limbo here I can no longer vouch

for working days, or if my real malaise  
might just be musing if I'm wanted now  
by you alive or dead? Live I could raise

a cool half million. Dead it goes to Joe.  
If I've 'been DEAD' am I now resurrect  
and rich, or still a ghastly ex-officio

crash corpse? Those 'hoodlums scammers' I reflect  
might just be you, despite your wish that I  
should rest in perfect peace. I'm circumspect

about my first response. Success and joy  
may be your stated goal but safety first –  
you're in the trash dear Wayne – you wongaboy –

since you forgot to check if I was versed  
in things grammatical, your bubble burst.