

## ON AMBAG

---

*Mark Angeles*

- Ambag** five letters, hunched and bloated,  
in my default social networking font,  
hatching a plot, as I was led to read,  
but to my inner speech, it sounded like
- Humbug** a sluggish tandem of closed syllables  
formed to form a magical spell,  
like the commaless “Dura lex sed lex”  
supposedly a counterattack by those
- Hambog** thinking it’s a killing curse, throws out  
ambag, demands for my ambag...  
Ay, ambot—my bag—is a sling bag  
of coins and bills, my quarantine pass  
and ID; gunless, like Winston Ragos’s.