

Nightmare

Some say it all began
With a stolen election
When for the good of the country
The Supreme Court
Declaimed victory for its red breasted minions
(The early bird gets the worm)
Salvaging a rigged election
That didn't quite swing on its own chads
But hung instead in the wind
 On the word
Of an election functionary
Who wouldn't back down
Come hell or high water...
In real time
The culture of red cronyism
And green Nature later granting us both...

Some say it all began
When the symbol of man's liberation
From the gravity of birth
Crashed into the icon of American pride and power
In downtown Manhattan
And changed the horizon
Of 'Safe on these Shores'
 Forever
Giving a directionless boy from Texas
Purpose
Something to say for the first time
In his lackluster presidency
If a confused day late
And many dollars short
-Daddy- how much is a trillion?

Some say it began
With disdain for the law
Under a shrewd cloak of leadership
Shared by those shadowy non-patriots from Nixon's time
And our own Orwellian outtakes
Whence 'domestic spying'
Spins into rebirth as 'terrorist surveillance'
(Is Freedom becoming Slavery?)
Because prominent appointees
Crooked down to their molecules
Became some kind of sick patriot first?
Since when in the name of Freedom
Should we surrender our liberty to Big Brother?
Freedom is not Slavery
No matter how many times it is chanted
In terms sweetened by and for the political tongue
-And as much as those paper patriots would like us not to notice
The Patriot Act
Is not about Freedom
And supporting it
Is not about Patriotism
Just as the so called War-
Undeclared

Against an enemy unnamed
Is not a war in the normal sense
And cannot be won with bullets...
 (Is it destined to become a permanent state
 -WAR IS PEACE-
For our SLAVERY IS FREEDOM
To another wayward politician's lost cause
That just happens
to enrich big business?)
-Was not about weapons of mass destruction
Nor about liberating the oppressed
Nor even about Al Qaida
Though they were each sung out
Chapter and verse
 In full harmony
When the President needed a crimson tune
For the fife and drum
Marshaling hosts of self assuring soloists
-What a chorus that was-
While they sang about mythical threats
In hectic red
More than two thousand of us
(And uncounted collateral damage thousands who can't count
 Because they are not us)
Died
Proclaimed heroes
For nothing more than following orders
And dying for it
As if death itself was heroism
Heroism in this day
 Become little more than Bravery
 And bravery, obedience
We weep for them
Knowing that 'Support our troops'
 Really means assailing this misadventure in foreign policy
 And bringing our boys home
That a truer heroism
Is not supporting the cowboy who sent them to die
On sunbaked sands
For half baked reasons
 Puppet to his own advisors
 With their decades long ambition
 To birth a new paradigm in the Middle East
Finding at last both a drumbeating pretext and a textless president
at the same gullible time.

Our PEACE has become WAR
And if PRE-EMPTIVE WAR becomes PEACE
Will it not end in PRE-EMPTIVE JUSTICE?
-Finding blue ideologues
Threatening our red security?
Will it not end in pre-emptive assassinations?
 American Gulags?
A new class of enemy combatants
 Identified by bounty
For American Gulags?
Dissident American citizens
Held indefinitely without charge

In the name of national security
Sent to prisons that don't exist
In places we can't talk about
 Without betraying national secrets
 And risking the little freedom we have left
To little pink Guantamos sprung up all around the world?
Arousing secret demigods
 In places where the forgotten are mindfully tortured
 By the unminded lost?
Have we not in deed become the Great Satan
Which was once to us the atheist Soviet Union?
Our own Shadow now the battlecry
Of anonymous legions of Muslim fanatics
Unsure of their sandy future
But sure of their 'No God But God'?

I can't sleep
In the midst of this brave new world of 'terra'
This peculiarly Red American Dawn
Of electioneering instead of elections
Pre-emptive wars instead of statesmanship
Of state sponsored savagery in secret prisons
Defacing our mythic -now bloody- banner of justice
Waterboarding
 Our 'most humane nation' status
Handshakes
Over the largest debt in the history of the world
A war not paid for honestly
While we continue
Earmarks
And a stormy deluge of executive doublespeak
Proclaiming the Right to Life
Within a Culture of Death
 Dealing
A politics of Business
As usual
Murmurings and muttering pleas
 For reform
Echoes of hurricane rhetoric
Become just a vague memory before the inevitable
Watered down vote...
Will this nightmare never end?
I am drowning in a sea
 Of red faced lies
In these un United red States of America
In what was once the red white and blue promised land,
Home of the brave and the free...
How did it all begin?
For the good of the country?
-Sleepers Awake-
Its us who elected
These ruby throated
 Evil doers...

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