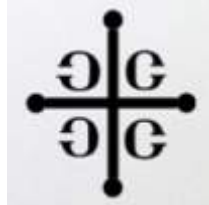


## Young

by ryall *Monday, Sep 2 2013, 10:44am*

international / poetry / post



u were so young,  
yet instinctively  
u recoiled,  
refused to live  
in their box  
their confined space,  
a prison of torturous  
nightmares,  
agonising fears  
and conservative delusions

u spent ur infant years  
by the Danube,  
u watched the clouds  
in their whiteness  
hovering above Belgrade  
in the sapphire skies  
of Europe

whatever it was,  
the ageless river,  
clear skies  
or the whitest clouds,  
u discovered freedom -

unfettered,  
u flew  
in the voluptuous  
world around u

and when in Anglo Oz  
u arrived  
they lined u up  
with the other kids  
to swear the oath of allegiance

to honour their God,  
serve their Queen  
and salute their servile  
(colonial) flag

rightly u balked  
descended from slav  
and Mongol warriors  
the blood of conquerors  
ran thru ur veins -  
ur lips immobile in resistance  
ur mouth repeating nothing  
teachers saw ur defiance  
and took to u with rod and cane

they whipped u mercilessly  
from that time in kindergarten  
thru to the end of high school

it mattered little  
u were never out of the top  
five percent academically,  
what is the good of acumen,  
high grades and intelligence  
if it does not serve their State?

they delighted in whipping u  
attempting to break ur defiant  
spirit and steely will

they had no idea  
ur freedom was written/  
guaranteed long before  
in the blue skies  
of Belgrade  
on the whitest nimbic clouds

now u make them pay  
for every day of torture  
victimisation and hell

the utter folly of maltreating  
innocent children,  
creating devastating enemies  
for no good reason

they no longer swear  
allegiance in schools  
nor do they inflict corporal  
punishment

seems like they finally  
realised they were creating  
far too many dissidents,  
radicals,  
enemies of the State

<http://jungledrum.hopto.org/news/story-787.html>

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Underground Oz Poetry. <http://ozpoetry.lingama.net/news/poem-424.html>