

## Haunted

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international / poetry / post

a ghost that cannot be exorcised  
taunts humanity  
it issues from the 'dark side'  
admitted and embraced  
by leaders of the star and spangle  
that serve it

its malevolence knows no limit  
the blood of countless innocents  
it consumes to satiate its  
diabolical thirst

it is the antithesis of life,  
of everything good and worthy  
of existence under the sun

whispering constantly in our left ear,  
it seduces us to acquiesce to murder,  
plunder, destruction, apathy  
and selfishness

it finds expression only in our weakness  
and complacency but is held in check  
by the moral and courageous qualities  
we all possess

there is no killing this thing, it is our other side,  
named the great adversary by some  
but it may be contained by our nobility,  
bravery, compassion and will to  
survive

we must bind this demon or be  
enslaved and destroyed by its  
unspeakable evil.  
there are no options but to fight  
or die  
freedom is a dream if we fail  
to resist, our joy remains crucified  
if we surrender

discover it staring back in a mirror

informing us  
with its corrupting visage  
that we must act and be vigilant against it  
there is no evading it,  
we must confront it or perish -  
you know this is true

<http://jungledrum.hopto.org/news/story-1799.html>

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Underground Oz Poetry. <http://ozpoetry.lingama.net/news/poem-607.html>