

## Approaching

by rayn via shirl - Jungle Drum Newswire *Thursday, Sep 15 2016, 9:00pm*  
international / poetry / post

a beast prowls in the shadows  
detectable only by lateral vision  
like a phantom that disappears  
in the shapes of the night  
only to return, ambushing  
when least expected,  
in sleep

chilled to the very core,  
bones rattle and sweat  
freezes on skin  
this thing does not relent

i know its name,  
but am not ready to reveal it

it watches and waits  
for that vulnerable moment  
when it will declare victory  
with the utmost dispassion,  
as it is not evil, it's simply  
another consequence

how strange it is to engage,  
as we are all trained  
to attach emotion to everything  
and this thing is devoid of all emotion,  
malice, revenge, or personal motivation  
it is simply the result of too many  
factors to detail here  
yet it instructs as all experience instructs  
and i have learned not to repeat the idiocy  
that invited this unwanted guest,  
which possess a singular purpose  
to end this particular journey  
and thrust me into another realm

the very act of encoding it here  
ignites a small fire in my body  
the warmth of which  
repels the mindless attacker  
but it will return as it always does

until my weakness opens the door  
to my ultimate vulnerability,  
death

and yet this 'end' issues from me  
i am both its progenitor  
and reconciler, i must make peace with it  
as it has two names, inevitability  
and opportunity

everything born must die  
tho it is critical to understand  
that in life we face only one inevitability,  
death,  
everything else is a matter of voluntary  
and circumstantial choices  
choose well when u are able  
and remember,  
nothing ever ceases, it simply transitions  
and it's preferable to accept the inevitable  
consciously than go screaming into the night

<http://jungledrum.hopto.org/news/story-2358.html>

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Underground Oz Poetry. <http://ozpoetry.lingama.net/news/poem-673.html>