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Bipolar Nation; In Hopes Of Tomorrow; Paradoxical Legacies

Patrick S. De Walt 2780268
California State University, Fresno, pdewalt@mail.fresnostate.edu

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Bipolar Nation

Patrick S. De Walt
California State University, Fresno

Civil unrest
Civil disobedience
Calls for subordination
Calls for enforcement of divisive ideologies of othering
Lives in turmoil as fear blankets them
ICE agents knocking on doors
Rounding up breathing, living, loving beings as if they were cattle being led to slaughter
Mothers and fathers separated from their children
Families in disarray as if they were being auctioned off for Southern plantations
For a simplified prescription for a complex circumstance
The hypocrisy of the time is one of major concern
Those who celebrate their ancestors’ arrival on such places as Ellis Island
Seem to not recognize that they too were from legacies of foreigners
Yet the romanticism ends quicker than it really began as this has been forgotten
We want them invisible to our lives unless they are speaking “our language”
Obeying our laws which we ourselves often abuse or ignore
Cooking our food
Washing our clothes
Making our beds when we travel
Manicuring our lawns
An underlying principle of the “American Way”
Exploitation of laborers in the form of free or significantly reduced labor
Voiceless
Faceless
Humanless

A nation is again putting those who are different on notice
Pray like us
Believe in our God
Believe in our Way
Concede your history and beliefs for a better way
A way made in “America”
Bipolar Nation
Should be our new anthem
For we have continually practiced a policy of forcing either or outcomes
Whether it was 1776
Or during the antebellum period
During the times of McCarthy and his hunt for Communists
We remain steadfast in being the obstacle in our own way
Bipolar nation
Either you have or you do not
That includes education, financial freedom, and health care
Yet we continue to look the other way until our hatred of others spills on our doorsteps
Our rhetoric of violence to not only those beyond our boundaries but those who reside within is disheartening
If you speak too sharply you may find yourself in the reach of the tentacles of the “Patriot Act”
More so like yelling “fire” in a crowded movie theatre
You are labeling yourself as if you wore a scarlet letter or Star of David
Bipolar nation
We are who we’ve always been yet most do not want to see
A nation whose fractured past prevents us from un-fracturing our present and future...
In Hopes of Tomorrow

Patrick S. De Walt
California State University, Fresno

Testimonials provide snapshots into the hearts and minds of the deliverer. Yet listeners translate those messages through tempered receptors. Constructing organic truths, privileging their distinct sensibilities, progressivism, liberalism, moderatism, or conservativism. Frame the lenses socially accepted or recognized. Furthering the national pastime of divisiveness. Found morally. Religiously. Intellectually. Sexually. Economically. Racially. Throughout the landscape. Forefathers are perpetually propagated without further interrogation of their imperfections as founders of a more perfect union. A union of enslavement. Classism. Patriarchy. Reservational warfare. A more perfect union that applauds systematic hate and oppression. The birth of a nation of, for, and by the people is idealistically my hope and wish for the future inhabitants. Yet, a harsh reality exists of Wall building. Segregation. Exclusion. Gerrymandering. Victim-blaming. Selfishness. 1% has become synonymous with what it has always been. A form of tyranny that ironically is fit for a king. Yet, this is a nation without monarchies. Without caste systems. Without true democracy. Incompleteness is an unfortunate present reality where Love is not equally recognized. Cultures are not equally recognized. Languages are not equally recognized. Opportunities are not fully possible. In hopes of tomorrow. We must truly address the despair of today...
Paradoxical Legacies

Patrick S. De Walt
California State University, Fresno

Episodic memories exert themselves
Moment by moment
Challenging us to reveal
Our ulterior motives
Those that position us in relegated privilege
Further allowing us to deny our complicit roles.
In the preservation of the status quo
A reality that’s unreal for so many
Who hurt
Who need
Who reside in
A land of unbridled arrogance and self-righteousness
That allows for a belief in
Systematic segregation
English only and Immigration policies
Predicated on racism, xenophobia, and nativism
A land no longer recognizing the sentence structure of its own Constitution
A land who selectively promotes a redacted history of land owners and oppressed workers
The sovereignty of Native Peoples
Humanity is in a forsaken position
In this land
As are the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness
That were independently declared…