

POEM OF THE WEEK

WHERE'S BIG BROTHER?

Where's Big Brother?
Where has he gone?
Did he leave a message?
Leave a note of explanation.

We know where Big Brother
Has gone, flushed down the loo;
Covered in excrement, malodorous
To the nose and the soul;

Trump and his minions have
Deprived us of a big brother.
The United States was a world power.
Someone we could respect,

Could blame; was always there
Spewing forth capitalist propaganda
(Communist propaganda was no better;
Take that as a rejection of all forms of propaganda.

The truth may be uncomfortable.
You don't have to read between the lines,
No subtext, no hidden meanings!

Strange as it might be, I miss you
Big brother, you gave me a sense
Of grounding, of substance; What now?
Russia, China; you allowed them in.

Is the world awash with double-speak,
Has it always chosen your heroes with care
(lest their feet turn to clay, or something worse -
A malignant influence that plots and wonders)

2024, another four years of playing games;
The world's my oyster; maybe a pearl?
Another four years of ruin, decay and nepotism;

Another four years of rabble-rousing his “base”?

What can we see? A model of functioning Democracy?
Pardon me, while I cry. Tears of laughter? Maybe,
Tears of sorrow? Definitely. I want Big Brother back.
Someone to love, someone to hate; someone to argue with,

I want humans to run this nation hours behind and far away
Not egotistical fools swimming in their own excrement
Who can listen, and hear, not screaming anger and fear
It would be so nice not see his ugly dial, or not hear his name

Where’s Big Brother? The one I remember
From decades ago. Play the music. See the show.
Yes, he could be annoying, confusing even
But not dark and sinister, unable to tell the truth

Where’s Big Brother? We used to be on the same side
When beliefs were to be applied, issues were to be decided
I’m not sad, I’m worried. Who and what is this ugliness
From whence comes this dark despair? The world watches

Remember your essence
Flutter on by, butterfly

Leslie Bush
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