POEM OF THE WEEK

WHY SHOULD I CARE

PART 2.

REMEMBERING

Why? Death is part of life. True.
Acknowledge how they died
Burnt alive at the stake
Accused of being witches?

A structured multi-layered
Attack on women by men
Driven by fear, feeding fear
Supported by faulty theology

Faulty? Vindictive, aggressive, hysterical
These would be more appropriate terms.
It proved one thing: believe the lie
And others are equally sure to

Never forget, it is women, living women
Who were burned as punishment for being “witches”

“Believe the lie and others are equally sure to”

Massacres happen throughout the world,
in many countries. This was not a massacre
It wasn’t a massacre; it was a calculated, planned
The process of deleting socially unacceptable elements
From a population; it was an action to kill
and remove traces of not only a population
Specific populations; it was genocide

It happened during wartime; it was an act of war
It quickly became a mechanised, brutally effective
Way of killing and disposing of people. Its success
Shows its efficiency and is a model for repetition

Could it happen again? Yes! It did (lest we forget)
Pol Pot cleansed the population of intellectuals
Seeking some blood-stained agrarian nirvana in Cambodia
The once-united state of Yugoslavia unravelled

How could the international community watch and do nothing?

And was pounced on by power-hungry nationalists
Contending parties all ruthlessly applied what they had learned
Of Russian or German occupation: how to kill as many people
as possible, and then some more. As the world watched.

How could the international community watch and do nothing?

Then came the inter-tribal savagery in Rwanda
That's what the world is forced to confront,
A weeping wound that will not scab
How could a civilised nature have sunk to such brutality?

How could the international community watch and do nothing?

Got a head for figures?

It is estimated that over 60 million lives were taken in World War II.

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