These Times We Live In

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Awash, 
adrift, 
amid the wave 
of pretty 
pampered, painted 
faces, 
I am trodden, 
trampled by 
bottled 
store bought beauty. 
All big coin 
clothes 
photocopied and placed 
neatly on all 
except one misfit; 
Me: 
simplistic dress 
in reference to a 
state of mind 
which 
denoted beauty 
not by slick 
style, 
not in cadence 
with 
credit cards, 
not by the 
dominant 
dollar sign 
but, 
by the ability, 
acceptance, 
williness to be 
myself, 
and no one else. 
So amid these 
waves 
I am 
fraught, 
trodden, 
caught, 
but I remain unaltered, 
unchanged. 
All original parts.

These Times We Live In

There is a fear 
about these times we live in 
An ungrounded-ness, 
An off-balance-ness

There is a fear, 
not overt but hidden 
like water oozing thru a crack 
in a corner

There is a fear, 
Security is an illusion

There is a fear, 
Truth is concealed

There is a fear, 
The unthinkable is expected

There is a fear, 
Justice is on the take

There is a fear 
about these times we live in 
Spirit is hushed 
Anger beckons

-Paul Sorenson

- Brian Reedy

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