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## Dark World

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## *Dark World*

In a black world  
of streetlights and quiet buildings  
of glass and steel  
the elevator hum is the only sign  
that anything is vaguely alive

abandoned parking lots  
filled with the decay  
of another time zone  
now just dim shadows that remind one  
that they're all alone  
and nobody sees them

wash out of nothingness  
voids that last miles  
the occasional farm light  
illuminates lonely grain elevators  
and then they slide back  
into unforgiving night

the empty promise of conversation and embrace  
of flesh and touch,  
of kiss, heat, and smell  
as plastic as the distant signs  
of instant food and comfort  
that are never fulfilled

all prisoners of the night  
work hard for the singular allowance  
of daylight and life  
just a once a week hope  
from long hours and cracked skin  
fatigue and zombie driving  
and lonely corridors filled with deadly silence

gas station gatherings  
under bright neon lights  
the color of Christ's halo  
brief encounters of wanderers of the dark  
the occasional conversation with one who is like you  
but speaks very little of the language you grew up with  
yet knows the vague lonely pain you are feeling

*-Mark Evans*