

POEM OF THE WEEK

RADICALISATION OF A POET

An old poem, a new realisation and understanding.

Noun

the beliefs or actions of people who advocate thorough or complete political or social reform.
"his natural rebelliousness found an outlet in political radicalism".

Synonyms

Fanaticism,
Enthusiasm,
Madness,
Devotion,
Dedication,
Zeal,
Bigotry,
Infatuation,

Introduction

Written on 2 March 2014, for publication in Female First, an English online magazine, this was one of my early poems. Its purpose was to express the emotional writing poetry can provide. In this instance, it was the death of a beloved, and the compelling need to express feelings, feelings of pain, of struggling to understand, of looking for hope.

Did the poem succeed in doing so? You, friend, have the final say.

10 years on, I look at it; primarily the title. I wonder, was it apt? Descriptive? Writing poetry I consider an act of rebellion against the status quo; it requires enthusiasm, devotion, dedication and zeal. Fanaticism and madness? I plead the Fifth. No, give the Ninth (symphony).

Drum roll! Presenting, undressed and unadorned the poem.

He's old. some might say;
I prefer "mature". Did death
scythe the chains of conformity?

The voices chanted and exclaimed, "Enough,
unleash us; let us play: dance openly, on display!"
Something about dogs, and war?

The Muse says, "No!" Foolish games, unbounded ego.
Accept for a moment, on some cosmic level,
one is not unique. The pain is borrowed.

Exult in the moment,
Share your words;
release the children of your mind.

Will they be noticed?
Don't need your acclaim.
The emperor is indeed naked.

He is not fooled.

Les Bush
2 March 2014