

# Dumped Through



RONALD MARS LINTZ

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Locofo Chaps is dedicated to publishing politically-oriented poetry.

Chicago, USA, 2017

F

no air,

water,

roads,

education.

you would have nothing left

for anyone else but yourself.

when does the gold

get lonely, the rooms

filled with faux loves

under skies that are

just ceilings?

when do the voices

reach from the streets

to your ears?

U

we are living that don't  
breath, names that don't  
argue for your attention,  
but that will not fade with  
your violence.

we have seen men like  
you before bent on  
shoring up before a flood  
they let loose.

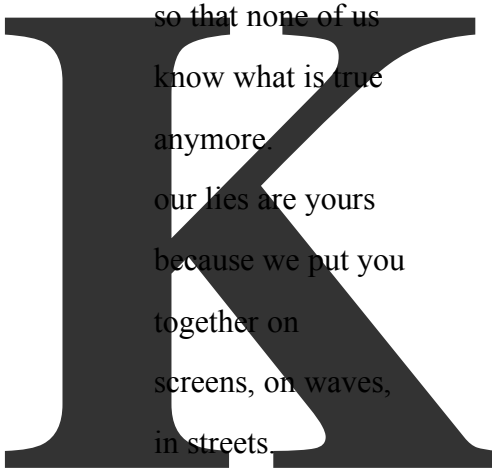
we have seen the piles,  
the burrows and fires  
that come to the people, not  
the men, so we don't  
intend to stop broken  
by the roadside.

C we have tried to gather together  
to let you hear our voices  
screaming for a country that is  
rapidly heading for the worst,  
but you hear only the drowning  
newscasters who have no  
concern

we have tried to tell you that  
your dream of america is not  
ours, is not one we even want  
to recognize

we have tried to tell you to sit  
down and not rush forward  
with your torch destroying ages  
of buildings just for your own  
need, but you only hear what is  
said in cold rooms by men, and  
men only, who are focused on  
death.

our lies pile  
along with yours



so that none of us  
know what is true  
anymore.  
our lies are yours  
because we put you  
together on  
screens, on waves,  
in streets.

our lies are stories  
we recognize, but  
you have forgotten  
the story and  
bought the reality  
and are trying to  
sell it back to us  
as the real.

I walked out through streets where my  
children play hoping to keep them safe  
but know that none of us are safe anymore.  
Building walls does not keep others  
from following. Pushing friends  
off the curve does not keep us safe. Building  
walls does not keep us safe, so I know  
that now none of us can  
count on a place to hide.  
I know that I must sing for peace without  
some of those closest to me and hope that my  
neighbors will turn from the lampshades, from the lines being  
prepped for our future.



# O

we have been listening to what comes through, dumped through as truth in a time when such words collapse. and we hear over and over a story that we do not understand with language meant to push the elderly into one line, the poor into another. we were taught young that bullies would not win, were taught not to punch back, but now the door is removed, our heat is off, and we have to decide what to do.

# U

one day

have been

we will

have done

must take

peace into

words

to deceive.

we will decide

mistaken

try to

for now

to the streets

being,

that are

that we

and

fix what we

the poets

to sing

to craft

not meant

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