

BREATHING UNDERWATER

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NICK HORGAN

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HOWL2012 - Abridged

I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by greed, laziness, apathy, rolling drunk in the streets while their brothers were ordered to invade sovereign states to secure the drug of developed nations, to proclaim democracy, equality and self-determination,

I saw the bodies of generations destroyed by warfare, suicide bombers, genocide, collateral damage, friendly fire, pre-emptive strikes, slaughtered by blind greed, fundamentalism, and pride, piled up body bags in anticipation of the avoidable loss, women and children not spared, condemned to participate by equality and coercion,

I saw stricken seabirds greased and feeble, the last of species expire, rising floods and withering crops, man's vicious footprint across his inheritance,

I saw the peaceful protests of those who identified the greed with the destruction, beaten by those sworn to protect and serve, protests hijacked by anarchy and destruction, and I saw tsunamis of the will overpowering oppression,

I saw the best lives of my generation strung out on credit, their investments gambled by the bonus boys, gambled over and over, double or nothing always ending in nothing, who blamed Wall Street and the euro-zone for their collapsed lifestyle when the cheque bounced back into their dirty hands, dirty with the sweat of poverty in foreign lands, where you could and you would refuse to work, in conditions you chose not to know, your excuse not to care,

I saw the souls of a generation die, a generation who tamed ideas reducing them to icons and tamed those icons reducing