

POETRY

Plattered Beings

Alejandra Maria Bozzolasco¹

Introduction

Human beings most closely interact with non-humans when they consume them. Yet, the vast majority of the meat-eating human population is unaware that they are ingesting beings whose lives were violently torn from them in order to become a plattered delicacy. This poem is an examination of the plight of the non-human oppressed and the need for humanity to acknowledge and recognize their blame. By highlighting the disconnect that exists between those who use non-humans to satisfy culinary desires and the beings who are consumed in relative invisibility, this poem is both a creative catharsis for the author and an outcry for the voiceless.

Plattered Beings

Sentiments discarded like offal from the slaughterhouse

Unwanted remnants of rationality gone awry.

Solitary beings languish behind cages dripping with blood - unspoken thoughts.

Beasties trenchantly stare with magnifying glass eyes, knowingly.

Voiceless.

Organs dot the landscape, unnoticed.

Manufactured doom – living sustenance for the masses.

Vegetalized beings - living, breathing, walking heads of lettuce – saturated in blood.

Corpses blight humanity. Billions.

Unseen.

¹ Alejandra Maria Bozzolasco is a Ph.D. Student at Montclair State University, Department of Earth and Environmental Studies. Contact details: 1 Normal Avenue – Mallory Hall Montclair, NJ 07043.
E-mail: MEEW1977@aol.com or Bozzolascoal@mail.montclair.edu Tel: (973) 659-0889

Screams – screened, hidden behind archaic philosophies.

Prisoners of selective privilege.

Teeth gnashing in desperation – hunger, greed.

Mechanized murder – disassembly lines into infinity.

Tortured.

Sinews torn from the living bone, digested by the deadened heart.

Invisibility breeds murderous potentiality.

Humanity is guilty, complicit in absentia.

Saboteurs – abattoirs.

Objectified.

Extrinsic value trumps intrinsic worth.

Assuaging desires, taste overrides morality – defines humanity.

Death abounds – blood runs – ruins the rivers, clogging arteries.

Crashing, crushing – skulls, bones, societies collapse, the bodies' demise.

Finis.