Fear and Defeat

Paul Capps

Deaf silence overwhelms the already quiet room. It rings, the pitch louder than the breathing. The life rolls, turns, and cannot rest easy, Succumbing, no longer able to force Eyes closed.

The window allows the blackness to flow through, But it breaks, and crawls quickly to the back walls, Reforming. In its original shape, it clings and sways, Threatening, guarding its new found possession.

Eyes open, staring at the blackness, The silence is broken by rustling, And the blackness reshapes again. It seems to stare back and hissing, The blackness warns to stay away.

Alone! the thought now so clear. No one but me and the darkness here. Go to sleep, he'll go away, Close your eyes and he'll not sway.

Covers suddenly pulled in a flash Now over the frightened life. Eyes forced closed, but body tense, The life is still awake. After a little time goes by, hands relax, Breathing slows, eyes begin to remain closed Naturally. As the life begins to sleep, The blackness comes alive. Shadows fight for the prize, The cool, the white of the wall.

Suddenly, a hiss, another, then again. A war taking place through a window And the light. They clamor and they fight For the wall of life.

But slowly, surely, the window, it darkens. Time, the enemy, is slowing the winds outside. A blackness, now victorious Is alone and on the wall. Yet as the light decreases, So does the blackness fall. In death a scream comes from the thing Piercing through the room, So high and unknown that it could not be What is sound. As it leaves from where it was, It moves across the room, And passes over life itself, Continuing to scream.

Deaf silence overwhelms the once so quiet room. It rings, the pitch much louder than the breathing. The life rolls, tunrs, and cannot rest, And eyes again wide open.