

Icarus Dream by A.C. Arnold

Are you the quiet stranger?
Spreading rumours you can't keep
Unseen, your mark upon me
Constriction is robbing sleep
And suddenly we are drowning
Too close to the end of the sun
I feel I am breathing feathers
Freefalling, we have come undone
I sit under this night sky
Waiting the half-man attack
Something is silently creeping
Lungs are filling with wax

And I see it in your eyes
Do we share the same fear?
Walk towards this doorway
No, move away from here
Will we ever get out?
Or are we lost to this maze?
Can we take a step outside?
Or are we stuck in this lonely phase?
Now you know how they lied
What about the made-up numbers?
Of all those who have survived
Breath in and remember
No longer as easy it seems
Suddenly we are falling,
Falling into an Icarus dream

And suddenly we are blinded
A virus bright like the sun
I lie face down from the night sky
Until the half-bull is done
Something is silently creeping
And my lungs are filled with stone
Locked into this daily routine
Waiting the future alone
Will we be lost forever?
No chance or hope of escape
Dedalus's tools have trapped me
From a dream that I just can't wake

And I can't look in your eyes
Because we share the same fear
Don't walk towards this doorway
Can't you see I am already here?
Will you not just get out?
You'll catch me deeper in this maze
You need to take a step outside
You are too close in this lonely phase
Now we know how they lied
About the made-up numbers
Of all those who have died
A machine breathes in and remember
No longer easy it seems
No longer are we falling,
Falling deep into an Icarus dream.

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A.C. Arnold started writing accidentally by winning a school writing competition. After some early success he now has a 'proper job' but uses any talent for writing to complete funding applications for a local charity. He is married with three children.

Favourite poem: Crow: from the Life and Songs of the Crow by Ted Hughes.