



Phantoms of the Living

Scott Graves

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Poetry: A tale from the outland, by the author of ZONE CROSSING.

From the author's foreword:

"A poem, in its tone and mood and imagery, sometimes brings the reality that cannot be named, that exists only in nerve and pulse and the striving of spirit, close to our apprehension. Close enough to realize there is more to life than all our knowledge of the world, that there is something in frosty air fogged by the breath of a stallion on a winter morning that directs us toward the unreachable."

Contemporary society provides opportunities-- in every direction and on any occasion-- to see the kind of generalized cultural conditioning young and old are so accustomed to experiencing we don't even notice it any more. It's a given that young adults are held to a kind of ideal of an endless adolescence and to social behaviors reflecting norms representing a desire for the extinction of ethical virtue and a repudiation of the idea of individual freedom and responsibility.

This sets the stage for a culture of entitlement, one in which the idea of individual freedom is unacceptable in the greater political scheme of things, because a collective sense of lowered expectations is necessary to provide for the needs of the general population, and that is the way of the future. It is a future representing no greater power or purpose, no ethical foundations, no free will, and the extinction of the human soul.

One might be easily led to believe such about ourselves because mass media, whose ubiquity is Legion, generates a quasi-urban national culture: the superficial aspects of metropolitan life tend to gradually become apparent in the suburbs and rural areas. As difficult as it may be for one to affect the attitudes of people for whom everyday consciousness is an exercise in despair and superficial excess, many believe it impossible to establish a valid personal identity without doing so. At the same time, the collectivist and statist political ideologies which often serve as a substitute for an ethical foundation (or even an education) which are pervasive among such individuals and groups, and in the communications media which serves them, trend toward assimilation into the common culture.

But in the real world, the world of life and death, and regardless of cultural perspective or political stance, you are on your own.

This is the way of the outlander, since before recorded history. To know, to do, and to desire that which is good is an existential act. It demands accountability. There has never been a time when it has not demanded blood, and more than blood, the will to love.

Still, these are observations of mere Political scenarios in common currency.

It is Philosophy that makes life worthwhile, and Faith, Belief, Hope and Generosity that make life worth living.

Or so they say.

These are fragments and impressions and echoes, crafted of ideas, of memory and perception. Imagism, superstition, mystical delirium, unexplained phenomena, the carnal and the subtle and the sparsely sketched predominate. It is an artifact of times, places, and mind.

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Owen Ray:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. With book everyone in this world could share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the textbooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need instance. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors these days always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some study before they write for their book. One of them is this Phantoms of the Living.

Karen Jude:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the e-book untitled Phantoms of the Living can be excellent book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Stacey Lawrence:

This Phantoms of the Living is brand-new way for you who has fascination to look for some information given it relief your hunger associated with. Getting deeper you upon it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having little digest in reading this Phantoms of the Living can be the light food for you personally because the information inside this book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books acquire itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, that's why I mean in the e-book form. People who think that in publication form make them feel drowsy even dizzy this e-book is the answer. So there is absolutely no in reading a publication especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss it! Just read this e-book sort for your better life as well as knowledge.

Rosemary Lafleur:

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