

Behind these Prison Walls – David Rovics (2019)

Behind these prison walls,
Theres a man who's won awards
For the work that he has done
And all that It affords.
Such as the knowledge of the horrors
Committed in our name
They can't stop the message,
So the messenger gets blamed.
Behind these prison walls,
In solitary confinement,
In a land of rolling hills and royalty,
And other such refinement...
Is someone who is a hero
To whistleblowers everywhere,
Who helped them tell the world.
Of the crimes of Tony Blair.
Behind these prison walls,
You will find a mortal man.
The reason why we know what happened
In Afghanistan.
When the soldiers of the Empire,
Whose sun set long before,
Were torturing civilians
In their terror war.
Behind these prison walls,
Is a part of WikiLeaks,
An eloquent orator,
But you won't hear him speak.

...
Locked away in silence,
One who knows too well,
How those in Power Act
When there's another war to sell.
Behind these prison walls,
Is one who stands accused,
Of exactly what offenses
The US has refused.
To say precisely which,
Or to try to clear the mist,
Or to explain how he's not the same
As the other journalists.
Behind these prison walls,
Is a person they've deprived
Of most of the things in life
That keep us all alive.
The person being tortured,
As we stand here now,
For revealing the war crimes
- Why, when, where, how.
Behind these prison walls,
Our very right to be informed
Of what the hell is going on...
Is the teacup in the storm?
With knowledge there is power,
So the solution by the crown,
A 24 hour a day
Indefinite lockdown.

Behind these prison walls...