

## Night Flower

by TigerLily Saturday, May 15 2010, 11:44am

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*Gary Oldman as Dracula*

I wish  
at times  
I could fold in on myself  
like a flower closing its petals for the night,  
wrapping itself up, protecting its heart  
from the insensitivities that surround it  
(by day)  
and the malevolent forces  
that lurk in the night.

If only I could hide  
from the consequences of my actions  
and retreat from  
the pain I feel after having unintentionally  
caused pain in another.

I should never have been let loose  
on an unsuspecting, fragile world  
where innocence and sensitivity fall prey  
to rampaging brutes like me.

But I have never been able to  
contract or retreat into morbidity or melancholia.  
I am left exposed to the elements  
to feel the exquisite hurt and pain,  
returned to me in triple proportion,  
from having hurt those for whom I have deep affection.

I have no right

-- regardless of good intentions --  
to inflict  
pain or even discomfort on another soul.  
No right to cause the slightest mental perturbation.

What type of star-spangled monster am I becoming?



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Cleaves Alternative News. <http://cleaves.lingama.net/news/story-1980.html>