

Encounter

I was in my Local enjoying a beer
Something I sometimes do
When an odd looking chap with a creepy leer
Said, mind if I sit next to you?

He bought me a drink and we started to chat
You know, like all of us do
About the weather and this and that
And colds and Covid and flu.

Where are you from, I asked him
Somewhere far away, he replied
You wouldn't know it, he said with a smile
I'm from the other side.

The other side of where I asked
He replied with another leer
I'll tell you all about it
If you buy me another beer.

I come from a place where there is no war
No rows, no conflict at all
If anyone tries to start a fight
We throw them over the wall.

Or they might get shot, he offered
If they don't do as they're told
My world is full of young people you know
Few of us get to be old.

With this he prodded me with a gun
And his hand was deathly cold ...

About time, I heard my wife say
For that beastly noise to cease
If you carrying on snoring in this way
I won't get any peace!

I'm not going to say this again, she said
So don't make your usual fuss
If you carry on making this hellish noise
Then it's separate beds for us!

I would never argue with you, my dear
I smiled with relief and said
Your wishes to me are perfectly clear
And I happily went back to bed.

38 lines