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To where does the shackled wolf howl, to whom does the caged bird sing, and to what does the imprisoned soul strive for if his existence revolves around naught but the primal essences of survival. Nay says I, a life with the absence of freedom is a life with the absence of meaning, for there is no human life without choice, no choice without opportunity, and no opportunity without a democratic and fair society. The notion that man's singular goal is the survival and propagation of his bloodline is a blatant lie, sold by the economic and political elite to justify their aggressive policy and shortsighted action. Safety without freedom is no safety at all, for it is inevitable for a small percentage of a larger population to gain increased political power over their fellow denizen, which can be used to hack and slash at the basic rights of others for the maintenance of the political power that they bribed, cheated, and backstabbed to attain. From this lofty vantage point, even the less observant of the audience can observe how safety has not been a responsibility of the political system, yet rather it has been used as a cinquedeia for the politicians of our day to slit the throat of our democratic society and natural rights. Freedom in itself is a shield for the common man to defend himself from the maelstrom of the twin deities that dominate every aspect of our lifestyle, the purse and the horde.

How can some argue for the necessity of safety over freedom, when so many have sacrificed their safety on the altar of the promise of future freedoms. The moral and the enlightened, the sacrificial lambs of our world, are unfortunately found in early graves and filthy jail cells. The activists that enacted dramatic change in the name of freedom were chastised and persecuted for their activities and beliefs, despite the massive benefits that it brought into our society. How can one even fathom that the epitome of human desire is that of safety when so many have found themselves putting their lives on the line for the sake of freedom of others. The occurrence at Tiananmen square as a brave soul stood strong in the face of an oppressive government and a caravan of tanks. Often referred to as the "tank man" this individual threw away all guarantees at freedom by resisting heavily armed soldiers. This exemplifies how the human mind desires, not safety, not survival, nor even social acceptance above all, but yearns for freedom against all odds and all resistance. The human mind is not a sheep which can be easily contained to a pen and harvested by the wolves who would have watched as we wither and die, rather it is a hawk that dreams of flight in the whether through clear skies or through tumultuous storms. The resistance to the oppressive nature of the empowered is proof of that deep rooted desire strives for the ability to succeed or fail because of our own accord, and without the strangling hawser of the "safety" net.

Furthermore, without the guarantee of the protection of your civil rights from the government they will inevitably arrest and annihilate them in the expansion of their own

privilege. While to a few these transgressions are equivalent to setting their own flag alight and dragging it through the muck, many ignore these trespasses across our civil rights, and it is often the scrutinized minorities which face the rubber when the public needs someone to throw under the bus. While some of the more subservient minds may argue that there is no liberty without security, it takes the brain capacity of a common squirrel to realize that without liberty there is security for very few, many of which are secure due to their political, economic, or military power. So what is the only way to grant security to all denizens of a nation-state? It requires the creation of a secular government which protects the civil liberties of all citizens including the right to speech, the right to vote, the right to assemble, the right to associate oneself with any religion. These basic rights are what prevent the untamable masses and, by extension, the government which mindlessly seeks their satisfaction. Acts such as the Holocaust in Germany exemplify the extent to which these drives for “security” at the expense of liberty reduce the safety of all. Many uneducated citizens supported the persecution of minority groups such as Jews, African Americans, Homosexuals, and as always, dissenters. One by one these groups fell to the unbridled power of the public, which also supported aggressive policy to foreign nations. Nevertheless, this push for security ultimately led to the downfall of the nation at the expense of thousands of civilian lives, many of whom falsely believed that the Nazi party would be their salvation. The policy that sought to bring them security by dismantling the rights of their own citizens and those of foreign nations led countries like the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union to join the war against Germany, which ultimately led to the destruction of Berlin and many other large municipalities through air bombing raids. This serves not as an exciting story of the past, nor as a cry against the violent realities of warfare, but instead writes a parable into the sacred text of history, warning future generations of what has yet to follow for those who would trade their liberty and security.

To peer through the shrouded veil of history is an act of rebellion in this day and age, for the cretinous masses are willing to follow deceitful and mischievous politicians who further the government's own power, by expanding the government's own power. While it may appear to be a tautological reality in both figurative and literal senses, the government ultimately derives legitimacy through itself. While many mindlessly prideful Americans cry that the constitution is a sacred document that protects their own rights, they are as a hedonist with a thin layer of wax over their eyes, unwilling to dislodge from comfort and pleasure enough to peel it off with an idle hand. One clear glimpse through the past would indicate that the government has grown like a weed over the centuries, enough so to blot out the sun for the vibrant rose we call freedom. And what may lie at the roots of this weed, fueling its insatiable growth? Security. Security. Security. Even today in our war against terror, we have complacently allowed the government to peruse through our belongings and personal lives, a blatant abuse of our right to privacy: an enumerated right found in the constitution that the hopelessly optimistic prayed would protect us. Our liberty is not being hijacked nor imprisoned by the government, but it is being drawn and quartered in front of our very eyes because the same group of people that always follows the

instructions within the political propaganda, or as some may call the media, blasted into their ears every time they turn on the television. But no security has been gained, no more terrorist attacks have been committed, the government is not effectively finding sensitive information that could prevent these attacks, they're merely expanding their privileges with little to no opposition from the voters. After all, it would be "unpatriotic" to oppose your own government in a war.

Throughout history, mankind has engaged in a bloody duel with itself, as the disenfranchised and the uncultured heathens willingly lead their god-given liberties to the slaughterhouse, and volunteer others' liberties as well. This back and forth push of security vs. liberty is fruitless, for security is guaranteed by liberty, yet a push for security often leads to the loss of the rights, such as life, liberty, and property, for others at the gain of no actual security for the society as a whole. Security is, and always will be, the penultimate goal for humanity, because many more have traded it in for freedom for themselves, for others, and for their country. Throughout history the ironic cycle of losing security, then liberty, then surely enough exemplifies how pursuing security provides little security at all. Yet even today our liberties are being trampled in a stampede of government growth, but we have seen no increase in our safety from the enemy that our government has promised to protect us from. There can be no true security, but with that we grant ourselves from the liberties we have derived from our natural state of being.