

# JUSTIS

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## Shadows of Misrepresentation

**I**t is something of great concern for us all, that in not looking at ourselves and not dealing with our own inner nastiness and horror we can instantaneously add so much more power to the very things we are trying to heal.

Our shadow has an amazing inherent quality to misrepresent itself in order to avoid being exposed and consequently embarrassed. For example, we are all suffering under an **i n c r e d i b l e** misrepresentation of who we are. We are so much more than race or culture or creed. We are soul and spirit, too.

It angers me so much when trying to explain this to people. The main questions I keep coming up against are “Why the dark? Why is my life turning out the way it is? Why do I have to go there? Why should I even bother to look at myself? I mean, no one else is doing it, and they’re fine!”

In case you haven’t been looking lately, it is so NOT fine. We are all now numb from the injustice that we are suffering under. Let’s take the current situation in the Middle East. I keep referring to this situation, as it is such a hot spot and a perfect example of our inner selves, and our level of our forgetfulness.

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Our Middle Eastern brothers and sisters have one of the richest oil regions in the world. Their entire culture is based around the money that comes from it. They know that—they live there.

Imagine being an Iraqi for a moment. You have been living quite happily in Baghdad all of your life. You have a small business and family and life is hard work, as it is everywhere, but you continue to live on. You wonder whether or not you will have enough to perhaps go on a holiday to Mecca one day to honour your soul and spirit. You are free, within a limited system that exists anywhere around the world. In Baghdad you are under the control of (until recently) Saddam Hussein, who is not a very nice person.

But at least you are still living and capable of having a fairly reasonable life. That is, as long as you honour his humungous ego every now and then. You put up with it for the sake of having a peaceful life.

Life is the same as anywhere else on the planet. Then Saddam's huge ego starts to attract attention. The Shadow begins to want more recognition, so it begins a process of misrepresentation. Just like a petulant child, it will say and do anything to gain just a little bit more time in the spotlight.

Then along comes George W. Bush, telling you, the average Iraqi, that your life is horrible, tortured, controlled and downright wrong. You hear him say strange things like, "The Free world will deliver liberty to the Iraqi people. We will rid them of this dictator that makes them all suffer and bring to them the concepts of freedom, justice and liberty. WE will give them the right to vote. We will give them something to live for. We will show them that the World has a heart."

In the beginning, when you hear these profound statements, from a white, Christian, American male, who has never been to your country, you think he is simply mad, like any other politician. You think that he is trying to make himself look bigger than Saddam, who talks about more limitations. Then, this big-mouthed western white man starts talking about God. God bless America. Let's go to war and remove Saddam from power.

Do you see the misrepresentation? The people in the Middle East are suffering under this illusion that everyone who is not from the east wants the same things. The depth of anger and hatred is on the increase, and it will only deepen as the shadow reveals itself for all to see. WE, the west, now have to face up to the full taste of our racism and judgement of who we are and how we have been represented.

It is not a nice taste. But hopefully within the midst of it all, we will finally be able to truly love one another, love ourselves and destroy the shadow with itself – now that we can see it in plain view.

Destroy misrepresentation, whether it be global or personal. Why misrepresent yourself any more? Or if you do, shut up and stop whining about it when people cannot get close to you, or love you the way that you want. If you come to a workshop, or develop your spirit and soul skills and begin to honour them, why go home and pretend that you haven't been discovering more about yourself...why only be "spiritual" on Mondays Wednesdays and Fridays? This kind of shadow misrepresentation is the same whether it is between the east and the west or between your "spiritual life" and your "ordinary life", whatever the hell that means.

Play no part in misrepresentation. Don't make yourself or other people or cultures out to be anything other than what you know. If you cannot speak with authority, it is perfectly acceptable to receive your holy humility and say "I don't know anything about that."

Take heed at our current global situation and begin to destroy whatever it is about you that you have been misrepresenting. What are your phony 'Weapons of Mass Destruction', and where have you supposedly hidden them? Perhaps behind a very clever mask and an extremely desperate ego that will misrepresent anything just to be loved and adored.

Start realising now, that we are truly all one, in soul and spirit. Whether or not you believe that is entirely up to you. Test it out. Find something inside of yourself and look for it in global affairs. This is the truth of it, not the misrepresentation.

You have been tricked into thinking that you are not responsible for the horror and daily pain that you are in. Let's not be misrepresented any more. Go inside and be true. It might be slightly embarrassing when you wake up, but you will be so glad when you are able to reach out to your misrepresented self. This is truly the beginning of healing the world in a most magnificent and glorious way.