

"We Saw It Happen"

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278 words

We saw it happen
We made him king
Betrayed our neighbors
Sorrow we'd bring
We felt no pity
To lies, we'd cling

We saw it happen
It was too late
Our naive decision
Will choose their fates
Over their store windows:
CLOSED was draped

We saw it happen
We made them outlaws
By our hands
We signed the death clause
If only we could see
If only we took pause

We saw it happen
Eyes filled with fright
All was taken from them
Schools, jobs, rights
And what was next?
A horrific plight

We saw it happen
We chose to agree
We imprisoned a people,
Who once were free
Why did we advance?
We ignored their pleas

We saw it happen
From the outside
The line "us and them"
Was drawn
We were told

We were on the right side

We saw it happen
We heard
It wasn't right
We knew
But the idea didn't
Keep us up at night

We saw it happen
Camps would grow
Like cancer
Taking millions
What happened to them?
We would soon know

We saw it happen
Why didn't we stop?
We heard the cries
But turned away
While in the camps
They worked, starved, and dropped

We saw it happen
Krakow and Chelmno
Our neighbors and friends
Forced to go
Trapped, dying
Eyes filled with woe

We saw it happen
We knew it well
We did nothing to stop it
We stayed in our shell
While those all around us-
Were living in hell

We saw it happen
Will it happen again?
Will society once again

Commit this sin?
If this is so,
Why would they begin?

We saw it happen.

Works Cited

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