

Slavery's Toll

Blacks wear their Blackness
as badge of fierce survival,
strength under the whip

Whites wear their Whiteness
as badge of vain privilege,
unearned advantage

fragile bridges burn,
no sooner built than destroyed
by arsonists' hate

demagogues ignite,
lighting the way to darkness
with torches blazing

America's shame,
self-inflicted mortal wound,
the toll of slavery



White nationalist rally, Charlottesville, Virginia, August 11, 2017 (CNN)

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