

america

You are sugar and fat and cheap and rich  
wanting convenience without the sacrifices  
wanting the cheap labor and cheap cars and cheap phones and cheap food  
but not those behind them  
not those who toil and risk their lives to provide  
for themselves for their children for their babies  
the babies that those protesting outside Planned Parenthood say they care about.

I am a moth  
and you drew me in with  
your deadly flame.  
I did not know the real You.

Like biting into a red apple only to find that the inside  
is filled with rot.  
Or like being inducted into a club  
fulfilling membership qualifications but  
knowing on the inside that you do not and cannot really belong.

the Center of the universe; all eyes on you  
as you make your move,  
like Atlas, only unaware of  
the true weight of the world that rests on your shoulders.

we wait.  
holding our breaths as you  
prioritize your Imagined Community  
over People who are equally invisible to you.

But

there are those who see through  
Lady Columbia's disguise  
who look forward and pray  
to Knowledge and Understanding  
and they will keep america's true flame alive.