

Dear Bill,

Surfing through your Internet pages lately, I found pictures of the German revolution from 1918/19. Needless to say, that I was surprised. One image struck me in particular: an image of the fights in the printing district of Berlin. One can only see the combatants from behind, crouching behind huge reels of paper, prepared to shoot. They are from different social backgrounds - workers, soldiers, young and old - but collectively united against the imperial troops, defending the printing house they had occupied just hours before.

I was surprised that these fighters had found a way to smuggle themselves into your lime stone mine, able to continue fighting from within. Buried but still alive and acting like ghosts - always ready to fight, even if you hide them deep in the earth in a place hard to find.

I was surprised that you seem not to realize. Did you really not detect that they are there? You must. You try so hard to make them yours. Maybe you realized that you pay too much for what you buy all the time. Is this the reason why you always make up these mystical stories? Are you sometimes afraid of them haunting you? It must be like this. If I were you, I would try to let them go.

I know that friends of mine keep writing to you, trying to give you some advice: in these times and terms of reproduction be aware of what you buy. It might give you trouble. It is not so easy to fight with ghosts. They are always there - collectively united - you won't be able to stow them away. So please - for your own sake - be careful and never forget.

A friend