

homes, where you create an atmosphere where people feel comfortable speaking their minds and are literally nourished. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had them in our own homes where we are safe and we can have these dinner parties of real discussion among our friends and also invite people with different ideas so we can listen? If we can teach ourselves how to listen to the other viewpoint, what a great idea. If we can get democracy around our own dinner tables.

I'm also thinking of the whole idea of shadow. Whether we like it or not, George Bush is our shadow: arrogance, impatience, entitlement, greed capitalism; we are all complicit in that. I'm interested in looking at what that shadow means. This is a time of reflection, contemplation, calming down and settling. As a writer, I'm trying to find places that test my own courage and comfort.

We are a nation at war. Can we have the courage to stay in that place of darkness and not be undone by it, not be undone by despair? I have enormous faith in the capacity to transform. This is a powerful time in the evolution of the human psyche — like the Renaissance and the Reformation. Look at the global response of humans to this war. That is powerful. It's never happened before.

EW: It's interesting to me that we started this conversation talking about the environment, but we couldn't help but talk about the war.

TTW: These are core issues at the heart of the land. We can't separate them but we have separated them and that's the problem.

So when we talk about the Earth, the animals as one consideration — when you talk about issues of water and politics, every being has a right to clean water, we incorporate conversations about democracy.

We need to be able to treat each other well in order to treat the animals and plants well. It's a cycle, the embrace. We need to see our limitations as human beings. I don't think the Bush Administration sees any limitations. And how do you create democracy without humility?

EW: This country was founded on the idea that anyone, well, white people, could come here and be equal. And be welcomed. And tame the land.

TTW: We have to speak out now on behalf of our community and on behalf of the land and say they're the same thing and say 'No, we are not rolling over' and 'No, this is not a corporate enterprise. This is democracy in the fullest sense and we must have regard and reverence and those are the cornerstones of a just society.'

EW: Terry, why aren't more people out on the streets striking, protesting, and refusing to pretend that life goes on as normal, at least for the duration of the war?

TTW: Again, it's those words, I don't know. We have to ask ourselves, 'What do I have to give?' and then, 'How do I give it?' Whether it's as a writer, an organic gardener, as a teacher, a social worker, a mother or father, we can exercise that courage and insistence, resistance, and say there's another way of being, another way of seeing, and I do think that counts. And numbers count. In many ways it comes down to that. **EW**

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