BEHIND OUR MASKS WE ARE YOU

We want the things you want, but today, not tomorrow. We think the things you think, but we act on them, too. We run the same risks you run, but we’ll be damned if we’ll run them for nothing.

We cover our faces
to uncover ourselves.

We discovered that we had been holding our true selves at arm’s length our whole lives, each of us afraid no one else had one. We had smuggled these unlived through a bitter world, cherishing them as the might-have-beens of another, impossible world. Though we shuddered dutifully at the televised specters of masked criminals and villains, our public lives were themselves the masks of prisoners who never dared act as if no one was watching.

Donning masks, we realized we had been keeping the wrong things secret. We had been acting in the open, and only in the ways we were permitted to act openly, while hiding our desires. We should have been proclaiming our desires openly, so as to find each other, and laying secret plans.