




## Vera Schwarcz: Dreams Follow No Party Line

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### VERA SCHWARCZ

Rushing, as if to a tryst, I ride  
a Flying Phoenix bike to the students  
at Democracy Wall. Amidst the clutter  
of red ink news about local elections, dead  
heroes, living monsters—a modest  
message penciled in blue:  
“Dreams follow no party line!”

In the heat of politics, debates,  
firm resolutions for what is  
to be done, someone posted a plea  
to let minds wander, to warn  
against quick balms for China’s  
ancient ills. I, too, came hungry

for clear answers, only  
to be reminded: dreaming  
well done is always  
pointless.

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Tonetto, ed., *Earth Against  
Heaven: A Tiananmen Square  
Anthology* (Five Islands Press,  
1990). Poems revised April 1,  
2004.