

Culpa

by [Brian Doyle](#) in the [December 10, 2014](#) issue

You can snarl and rage and roar and snipe at thugs and liars,
Sure you can, and right you are for doing so, and you maybe
Actually *enjoy* letting the lava soar out all righteously, right?
But even so, there are lies inside you like viruses. You know
What I am talking about; we don't need to go into any detail.
And we have been too familiar with a little thuggery, haven't
We? Not battery: You'll say, rightfully, that you are innocent.
No: I mean the times you knew about assault and battery, and
Did zero. We just stood there. We pretend to be fascinated
By something else that just happened to be happily elsewhere.
We turned our heads, so it looked like we just hadn't *noticed*;
We can surely be excused if we didn't see it, right? Right?