

# Subject Object Poem

Imagine a world with no mirror,  
no camera, nor lake without haze.  
How would I know what I look like?  
Where would I look for my face?

Would I be fair like the maid in the story?  
Or hideous, a walking disgrace?  
I could try and feel with my fingers,  
or I could tell from the look on your face.

But all that I meet, they are different.  
Some adore me, some run in detest.  
Some want me to tell them what I see,  
some say that not knowing is best.

Now, picture me finding a mirror.  
At last I can see who I am!  
I see tears rolling down on my cheeks as I  
admire the face I will damn.

Now I'm travelling the world with the truth in my hand  
showing everyone who they really, truly are.  
Soon I'm hated, haunted and crying,  
but not from loneliness, isn't that bizarre?!

No, I'm crying because I just realized,  
that the face in the mirror I see  
is yet another part of my body.  
If I see it I know it's not me.

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<sup>1</sup> **Kristian Stålné** holds a PhD in structural mechanics from Lund University and is recognised as an Excellent Teaching Practitioner for integrating adult development perspectives in pedagogic theory and practice. He is a co-founder of ESRAD, the European Society for Research in Adult Development, organiser of its first meeting and part of a Swedish network of researchers that teach and apply adult development theories in various contexts. Kristian is affiliated with Malmö University, Sweden, where he teaches building engineering subjects such as structural mechanics and acoustics. He is also involved in a trans-disciplinary research project on holistic and meta-theoretical perspectives on energy saving, indoor health and sustainability in the building sector, funded by the Swedish Energy Agency.  
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