

**Bourne**  
**toWrite...**  
creative writing  
workshops

## Now its Dark

A timed exercise

by Victoria Watson

Now its dark. I can see that old cow over the road with her fancy LED bulbs, showing off as usual

Now its dark I cant see the wrinkles or the dirt or the fingerprints in the dust

Now its dark I can walk around the house naked and not frighten the neighbours

Now its dark I can sit in my underpants and watch re-runs of Friends without being disturbed

Now its dark I can watch people walk home from the pub and trip over the kerb and laugh at them

Now its dark I can watch people sitting in their cars, stuck at the traffic lights picking their noses because no one can see them

Now its dark I read in the front room and pretend I am cultural and civilized

Now its dark nobody can tell what I have cooked, and I lie anyway

Now its dark I can stop dyeing my hair and shaving my legs

Now its dark I can walk round the streets and watch people watching telly

Now its dark I can watch peoples telly from outside their houses

Now its dark I can go to bed at 8 and pretend that its much later

Now its dark I worry about ghosts and monsters coming to get me

Now its dark I worry about the monsters I let get away

Now its dark I don't walk through the cemetery

Now its dark the supermarkets are too bright

Now its dark I can eat an entire box of maltesers and put the wrapper in the dustbin before anyone knows

Now its dark I feel the most alone

Now its dark I make everyone feel sick with all my scented candles

Now its dark I thank Christ for red wine, pies and Netflix

Now its dark I can wear purple and orange and not care what anyone thinks

Now its dark its so much easier to hide.