

Shadow People

By Helen J. Dixon

Lighted eyes and painted smiles hide the truth
 behind a puppet's façade.
Its master pulls its strings, forcing it into insincere gestures.
 Presumably, people have no such overlord.
Yet often they too, are manipulated by unseen hands
 into perpetrating hoaxes;
Exposing and showing odd, affected characteristics.
When where they really want to be is hidden in obscurity
 resembling the marionette collapsed in the box.