Do You Hear That?

Tony White

DIFFUSION GENERATOR
imagined the shock: I don't think he was ever quite
don't know what the family thought, but you can
say she'd. I didn't dare to ask about this, so I
rather was doing, and he killed himself from the
head been shown a video in prison, of what his
allowed for another knock at the door, and jumped
the other son never came home, though they all
younger who appeared.
just this son I don't know if it was the older or the
time or thing, either way it was
got separated. There were prisoner swaps, from
Maybe they were being moved around and they
I don't know why any one of them came home.
front of the cameras.
matter of record. He was never shy, always in
matter if you want to. In this case, this is a
With that kind of power you can make people
around him, taking a harder line in negotiations.
heard haven't started taking it out on everybody.
He'd never wondered who it was that he
published. He'd never wondered who it was that he
couldn't believe it, what with the strings he'd
probably disappear from camps all that time, he had't
deep in
he was known when he found out that they
right after that. His health. You’d think in some way he’d be pleased at least to have one son return to him, but I think he just retreated into the day dreams that had kept him going before. Those kind of dreams are hard to let go of. If they were grilling some meat or something he’d turn to his son and ask, ‘How do they do this in America?’ or ‘What kind of car did you drive?’

I think before the end, when the net was closing in, he might have been lucid enough to realise that he wouldn’t be remembered well. Maybe it’s lucky that we never see our own obituaries. He had a hospital appointment. His cardiologist recommended rest. It was his blood pressure, at times of stress it would go up very steeply. But of course he never liked to take advice.

I wanted to go to the funeral. Id thought that maybe I could get a story out of it, but in the event I decided not to. A few months after that I tried to phone to get another interview or at least a quote. I wanted to tell him that my tape recorder was broken when I’d interviewed him before and would he like to set the record straight, tell his side of things. I wanted to say that people would be interested in his experiences, that he wouldn’t automatically be...