spy to the point where he becomes a biological and political possession of the state. The paradox inherent to the spy's position is that while he is responsible for the defence of the state, he must consistently sacrifice the right to health and life that he protects.

CONCLUSIONS

The application of pharmacology within Fleming's novels reflects a contemporary position that through the employment of pharmacological means, the threat to peace could be eliminated. By enhancing the physiological capacities of the individual, a means of lasting protection could be achieved. However, the means of enhancement require a necessary sacrifice on the part of the individual. Fleming exemplifies the experiences of the wartime generation; the sacrifice of individual lives in favour of the greater good was justified by the end result. Through the spread of pharmacological knowledge, the use of Benzedrine by the spy develops into an extension of individual sacrifice. The position of utility is transformed into one of personal subordination, demanded if not willingly adopted. When it comes to preserving the British way of life, it appears that Fleming's position is that of his readership; better living through chemistry than not living at all.

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Miscellanea

Sodden

She trickles
from the waiting room,
her fluid form
spilling over the starched white
of the exam table.
Each movement
stirring her skin
like wind-skipped river rock.
She is nineteen years old
with a history
of Depression,
two elective abortions,
dental veneers
and breast implants.
Her chief complaint
is pain, rising
from coarse red lines
etched across her forearms—
hidden under linen sleeves.
The whole of her,
a quiet stream of rushing water
seeking a vessel
to pour inside.

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