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Goddammit what is so cool about Che?  
 okay, he traveled all  
 over Patagonia on a motorcycle  
 and studied medicine  
 and went to a leper colony  
 and to Congo, Guatemala, Cuba, Bolivia  
 the guy cared about the poor.

But what happened?

he oversaw executions                      very efficient executions  
 and praised violence... his own words

and I only think of that aphorism about how you  
 can fight for peace.

Now people worship him these days...

but not Abimael Guzmán of the Sendero Luminoso  
 though he and Che and Mao and Pol Pot and Lenin and Kim Il Sung  
 thought it was okay to kill

for the cause

they all once cared about the poor they all                      did

and as for me

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I do not cry over Hiroshima and Timothy McVeigh  
and no one puts my face on a T-shirt.

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**Caleb Powell** (<http://calebpowell.wordpress.com>) was born in Taiwan. After graduating from the University of Washington he returned to study Mandarin and teach English. He has also lived and worked in South Korea, Guam, Thailand, The United Arab Emirates, Denmark, Brazil, and Argentina. A Canadian small press, *Good Cheer*, published his guidebook, *The World is a Class*. His writing is published or forthcoming in *decomp*, *descant*, *Drunken Boat*, *elimae*, *Errant Parent*, *flashquake*, *Monkeybicycle*, *The Pedestal Magazine*, *Word Riot*, *Yankee Pot Roast* and others.