"America" by Tony Hoagland

1.	Noun Plural
2.	Verb Present Ends In S
3.	Adjective
4.	Article
5.	First Person Singular Pronoun
6.	Third Person Male Singular Pronoun
7.	Object Of The Preposition
Q	Gerund

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Then one of the with blue hair and a tongue stud
Verb Present ends in S that America is for him a maximum-security prison
Whose walls are made of RadioShacks and Burger Kings, and episodes
Where you can't tell the show from commercials,
And as First Person Singular Pronoun consider how to express how full of crap I think Third Person Male
Singular Pronoun iS,
He says that even when he's driving to the Object of the Preposition in his Isuzu
Trooper with a gang of his friends, rap music pour over them
Like a boiling Jacuzzi full of ballpeen hammers, even then he feels
Buried alive, captured and suffocated in the folds
Of the thick satin quilt of America
And I wonder if this is a legitimate category of pain,
or whether he is just spin doctoring a better grade,

And then I remember that when I stabbed my father in the dream last night,
It was not blood but money
That gushed out of him, bright green hundred-dollar bills
Spilling from his wounds, andthis is the weird part,
He gasped "Thank godthose Ben Franklins were
Clogging up my heart
And so I perish happily,
Freed from that which kept me from my liberty"
Which was when I knew it was a dream, since my dad
Would never speak in rhymed couplets,
And I look at the student with his acne and cell phone and phony ghetto clothes
And I think, "I am asleep in America too,
And I don't know how to wake myself either,"
And

I remember what Marx said near the end of his life:
"I was listening to the cries of the past,
When I should have been listening to the cries of the future."
But how could he have imagined 100 channels of 24-hour cable
Or what kind of nightmare it might be
When each day you watch rivers of bright merchandise run past you
And you are floating in your pleasure boat upon this river
Even while others are drowning underneath you
And you see their faces twisting in the surface of the waters
And yet it seems to be your own hand
Which turns the volume higher?
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