

A Fable For the Times

In a deep forest castle-like mansion
bears sniff at the door.

Wary guests carry honey decoys
and shotguns to the outhouse
just in case. There hasn't been
an attack in years but
they remain alert. Ghosts
in the attic, wolves in the forest,
ravens overhead. Locals
clean the rooms,
tend the garden,
haul the firewood.
City folks shiver
and bite their nails.