

## Now they gonna make us shut up

(by Gregg Shotwell)

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—sharpen pencils for them and  
wet the lead between our lips

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—take a wage cut and walk away  
like nothing happened out of the ordinary

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—automatically deduct from paychecks  
for things we don't want

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—call overtime mandatory and  
health insurance optional

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—give us new rules, old tools, and  
zero tolerance for being human

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—cut our break time, break our lunch time,  
get written permission to urinate

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—sign over our pensions to stock brokers  
working on straight commission

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—work twice as hard for half as much  
and repeat after me, “I'm lucky to have a job”

Now they gonna make us shut up  
—kneel down and tie their laces  
say please and thank you to their faces

Now they gonna make us shut up