

Untruthful Pity

How Islamism burrowed almost unopposed into Europe's fabric.

by Theodore Dalrymple



Terrorist attacks, like troubles, rarely come singly. They are subject to their own version of the Werther effect, so called after the hero of Goethe's novel, who killed himself for unrequited love, the publication being followed by a rash of suicides by romantic young men.

The night before the latest Islamist outrage in France, in which a terrorist killed three people in the Basilica of Notre-Dame de Nice, I was reading a [*City Journal*](#).