**Poetry Series** 

# Clifford Villaflores - poems -

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# Clifford Villaflores()

Who AM I? WHO ARE YOU? It matters who we are I'm a MAN in EVOLUTION Imperfect & changing Wounded & reaching Yet never giving up EVOLVING IN metamorphosis Flowing like a poem.

LIFE. Oh what is Life?

MY LIFE.

It has been a daily struggle, of ups and downs and highs and lows. Each new day brings forth new experiences and lessons. Each living soul I meet brings forth friendship and new learnings while each new trial tempers my spirit to be a better man.

Like all living beings, I have been judged so many times. I have fallen and will continue to fall as long as I live but I'll continually stand up to pick up the broken fragments. Like a jar molded by a skillful potter from a clay, I am an ornament of life who serves as an inspiration to some people. Like a torch that fills the dim room, I illuminate for my family so they will have light in the dark.

Though not all days are bed of roses, there are many dark times that I was wrestling with the shadows-of fear, anxiety and imperfections. Yes, each day is a struggle, a fierce struggle to become a better man like a butterfly struggling in a cocoon-in metamorphosis.

Like the dawning of the sun, I always believe there's hope as I reach out and look above acknowledging my weaknesses and in FAITH that I cannot stand alone without HIM. That I am nothing too without HIM.

Like a melodious song that inspires me and awaken my passion to love, humming tunes of life reminding me that I was born to love you-a woman, a very special love. If we try to listen to each melody, it would serve as an inspiration, reminding me that I am not alone. I am not alone. My FAMILY is the core of my being.

All that happens in my life is translated into POETRY.

And more than any melodious song is my passion to read and write poetry. It inflames my senses and keeps me attuned and grounded to life-that I am a human being with feelings.

Lastly, I envision someday that there will stand a place known as The Inspirational Cliff. A haven of inspiration for the rich and poor that would transcend all race, creed and religion. A place one can uncover the masks of life and act without pretenses and inhibition. A place of hope for the down trodden and depressed in life.

...my story goes on

#### '...Forget Me Not'

In a crossroad of LIFE Several roads intertwined Strangers here and everywhere Seemed unfamiliar, no one to care.

Slowly mingling out of the blue In dark shadows BEHIND the mist Different people coming out SOME ARE FICTITIOUS WITHOUT A DOUBT.

A few can be likened to clones While some are acting like drones Many can be considered as NICE Simply for real, flavored like spice.

These are the people we always meet At work or in the busy street We stop by to smile and say HELLO To talk further and ask "How do you do? "

Over and over as time goes by Faces and names may be forgotten But endearing moments live on In our minds imprinted & NEVER GONE.

FORGET ME NOT, FORGET ME NOT We should learn to treasure people More than any like a church steeple And always remember them as time flies

Whether flying in an airplane Or sailing in whatever ship Driving in a car, hearing a song SIMPLY FORGET ME NOT, YOU CANT GO WRONG.

# **Blissful Death**

Trekking the painful way to Calvary, Carrying the Cross in agony, 5466 wounds in the body Face disfigured and bloody. Bending, scorching, falling The Savior continued enduring Amidst mockery and deception, Following his destined Mission.

Hanging, bleeding atop of the cross
That sins maybe forgiven and lost.
The nails and lance tore his body
Then the clouds darkened and turned foggy.
Fulfilling the prophecy of his Passion
That a Savior would free a nation
That through dying comes Man's salvation
And in death cometh Resurrection.

# **Breaking Point**

We all have our breaking point But brother, what did you do? You have to rid those blues Then I saw a man on the cross He was bleeding with no shoes Christ conquered his breaking point And was hammered in the joint Yet, he never, ever gave up In his last breath, he fixed the gap

What about you? What did you do?

Do you run or make a stand?

Just like the miracle man Who once walked the land.

#### Broken Strings, Twisted Wings

From afar I see fire burning of rage, anger and jealousy Wrecking was the name of the game Gone haywire and havoc untamed.

I see structures destroyed and gone MUSIC and collections all burned All crushed and DESTROYED to pieces Nothing left, no broken traces.

I see bridges and roads vanished The glitters all gone now tarnished The wings clipped and broken too The sky is dark turned gray and blue.

I just stood there and watched THERE WAS NOTHING I CAN DO For a while I paused and pondered Can nothing be done, I wondered???

For some people who don't seem to care The signs are seen all over And chaos reigned when not sober Hearts turned cold like frozen river.

Was it really a NIGHTMARE? For a past beautiful to stare What on earth could have been the cause? THE TIE THAT BINDS WAS SIMPLY LOST.

As scattered and broken pieces lay What else can a being do? When the WHIMS of others take control Who would likely take the fall?

(Clifforce Poetics 2011)

# 'Childhood Memories Of My Uncle'

Childhood Memories of My Uncle

(In Memory of Danilo V. Panuncillo 1961-2011)

I was always in for a BIG TREAT, As we walked down the busy street Movies and food trips here and there Stuffs we loved with my brother It all seemed like Vanity Fair.

I remember special moments too Of how he has helped my father and kins In times when clouds become gray and blue Somebody that you can lean on to.

We sometimes pause for a good book An inspiring one as I looked Og Mandino was the writer "The Greatest Salesman in the World" A novel for a prize fighter As I read from cover to cover, I WONDER, "WHEN IS THE STORY OVER? "

As I reminisced those moments I feel emptiness within my core Grief hidden, I looked at the score. Where art thou, My Teacher? And the advices from the Preacher I could no longer feel and hear. He has taken his last breath And the words of life flashed in his death:

"There is no better thing than adversity Each misfortune you encounter will carry The seed of tomorrow's good luck." (Og Mandino)

That is how I'll remember him A light shines even if the path is dim. I asked again, IS THE STORY OVER, BOSS? I held the book, the pages I tossed, The answer was there, I wasn't LOST:

"Welcome every morning with a smile Look on the new day as another mile From your CREATOR up above. Another golden opportunity to complete what you were unable to finish yesterday......"

Rest in Peace Uncle Danny.

#### Christmas On Earth

What's Christmas in Heaven like? I'm sure its fun and of gaiety A splendid sight that shines brightly With things in order moving rightly.

No pain, simply no suffering In there love is an offering Can we be there too? Here on earth we feel so blue

On Christmas, the land is adorned With a spectacle of lights like morn The SHOWROOM is decorated in plenty But the STOCKROOM seems empty.

Each day we search for meaning The quest seemed unending We try to reach each other's life But our effort often lead to strife

As we try to touch and reach out Hand to hand trying not to pout To all our loved ones whose dear For each of them is worth a tear

Yes, a tear of love so divine So precious and one of a kind No marks of distinctions and lines Rids the gap of yours and mine

This season as we all gather Let's bind the INDIFFERENCE towards another Oh, So many times we feel alone Can we simply break our HEARTS OF STONE?

As I think of my family As all people on earth do And pray that they will love me And never disown me too. We are all like the Wisemen from the East Looking everywhere and afar Travelers on Earth seeking the star Its just within us, it aint far.

Let us try not to shed more tears And set aside all our fears For our souls will never be at rest If we fail to do the test!

Yes, its Christmas here on Earth So Ive heard the carolers sing Peace, goodwill and blessings And glad tidings we'll bring.

# Colors Of LıFe

Life is painted in colors You see green, white and blue There's orange and yellow too But red and white dominates In every good act there's white In every bad deed, red bites.

If you smile and tickle me, what kind of color do you see? If you bad mouthed and prick me, What hue is painted on the wall? Or would you help me when I FALL? Life is full of colors we all can paint Why not play fair with colored daint.

# Daily Alphabet Of Life

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- A ccept people for who they are
- B elieve you can reach the stars
- C ourage amidst all the fear
- D evotion for God is near
- E mpathy for the broken hearted
- F eeling great just to hit the pot
- G ivers gain a whole lot
- H earts on, hands on, minds on
- I ntensify your commitment
- J ust say it and do it well.
- K eep your promises always
- L ive each day as if its your last
- M ake the most of your time
- N ever ever leave your slime
- O rganize and plan things ahead
- P rocrastination isnt good
- Q uit not and take off the hood
- R emember from dust you came from
- S ing a love song to somebody
- T ee off the day positively
- U ntie the knot of bitterness
- V enture into sweetness
- W in-win in all dealings
- X ray and examine oneself
- Y earn and value one's life
- Z estfully avoid strife.

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#### December Birthdays....The Best

December Birthdays...The BEST by Cliff Force Villaflores

Lights all glowing, trees decorating The merry and festive atmosphere The Christmas songs, the carolers singing The exchanging gifts, the joy they bring.

The advent wreaths, the tall Christmas trees The merry makings and the cool breeze The colored lanterns and blinking lights And the STAR, its a wonderful sight!

The Angels and poinsettia they abound The bells and the hymns, oh what a sound! The HO HO HO's and all the laughter The thirty one days just seemed brighter.

Its the month of wrapping and giving Oh, thank you Jolly St. Nicholas And the three wise men bearing gifts All for JESUS, the healer of rifts.

Since the first day of December I celebrated mine on that day Each thirty one days is worth the play Celebrated in a unique way.

CHEERS TO ALL DECEMBER CELEBRANTS TO MY FAMILY, FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES NOT FORGETTING WHAT'S THE SEASON FOR ALL FOR JESUS AND KIDS KNOCKING ON THE DOOR! !!!

(IF YOU'RE A DECEMBER CELEBRANT THEN THIS POEM IS FOR YOU TOO)

# Friendship

#### Friendship

Friendship is like a plant that grows You nurture from seed It blooms and shows You water it with tender loving care You talk to it in each moment you spare Neglecting it may cut like a knife Oh please don't be naïve to one A friend needs another like the sun Life is too short for indifference If FRIENDSHIP is not your point of reference, How would you be able to show your humanity And water the seeds of care and unity?

**Clifforce Poetics** 

# Goodbye My Dog My Friend

The empty room I now stare The silence I cannot bear The once defeaning bark The paws lost in the mark.

The howl that greets me everyday The waggling tail that meets my way The joyous runs here and there The leaps and fun everywhere.

The constant jog in the park The feast of dog food and the pat The walk to the vet and the mat The ride in the car where you sat.

The weekly baths where you chill As water cleanses and fill The bath soap that you don't like Washing dirt after each hike.

The shaking hands that pleases us The hide and seek that turned to bust The daily jumps to and fro The garbage sneak seen all through.

THEN YOU GOT SO SICK ONE DAY IT JUST CAME ALL OF A SUDDEN WHEN YOUR SMALL HEART STOPPED BEATING HOURS LATER YOU CEASED BREATHING.

The spark in your eyes was gone As we arrived late one night You just lay stiff in my sight In one dreary and sad night.

Tears fell in my eyes like rain I just couldn't bear the pain My senses seemed all crushed And system felt like all mashed. For minutes, I was so stunned The once playful dog now gone Eyes closed I couldnt help but sigh I cried and cried...I just cried.

Past midnight I got a shovel I dug amidst the rain and cold Sweat, tears and rain mixed all over A night that's hard to be sober.

As I bid one last goodbye To Caisey, my friend and pet Ever loyal and loving You're simply worth cherishing.

(Clifforce Poetics/August 24, 2011)

#### **Graduation Day**

Four years may seem a fleeting moment Leading towards a Commencement Of highs, onwards to a new degree Of lows to friends, a parting sorrow.

Moments endearing spent in school Homeworks, thesis becoming a tool Knowledge and learning- food for the soul As graduation becomes a goal.

Looking back the early Freshman year Made each classmate and friend so dear Period of adjustment oh so hard Oh, how College caught many off guard.

Then came Sophomore and Junior years Drove so many several fears Requirements of PASSING piling up Doubling one's time, fixing the gap.

Then came SENIOR year, the FINAL stop Practicum here and there, moving on Seeing the light as the tunnel shone Clearances accomplished now all gone.

Now as individuals marched and watched I just can't help but shed a tear Of moments spent in ups and downs Of mixed emotions in getting the CROWN.

Congratulations.

(March 2011, Clifforce Poetics/Dedicated to the Department of Hospitality Management Graduating Class of 2011)

# I Am A Leader

I am great and bold Never quitting I have the heart of gold I lead by example I show what to do I empower people to be a TEAM And make them realize To follow their dream.

# My Prayer

My Prayer

As I cry out in deep pain Let not my prayers be in vain To you I shout from afar As I uncover my scar

Oh Great and Immortal One Whose face shines brightly as the sun Your heart is full of compassion My prayer, a contemplation.

Father, son and Holy Ghost Make my body as your Host Temper my spirit free from sin In all my struggles guide me to win

Gold and jewels I do not ask Material things will come to pass Good health, wisdom and tranquility Would be just enough for me

When I die, I don't want to be blue Bring my family near you too Make us all ready when the time comes Make me humble and meek like a lamb.

Written March 1997

# The Candle

I see a candle burning It glows, its light is shining It illuminates the room It takes away darkness' gloom.

I see a candle burning Its spark fills a dim place It is warm, I feel its heat My eyes I gaze as I sit.

Flickering on a gloomy day Kindling...Shining...burning hay We are the candle of life Flickering amidst the strife.

I see a candle burning I began to ponder If the light stops glowing Would one stop hoping?

Can a candle light up forever? If the flicker of light dims, Can a soul remember, The good, the laughter and whims?

I see a candle burning I hope you see it too For it shines in me and you I see a candle burning A light not colored blue.

# The Eyes

They say it's the window of the soul. It tells and reveal the real you Whether your sad, happy or blue You cant fake it, you cant hide Specially when you speak of lies For it shows deep within your eyes.

# Waggling Tail

...WAGGLING TAIL

Indeed they are man's best friend. A companion around the bend Never changing amidst the trend Indeed they are truly Godsent.

Always eager to see their masters Towards you they ran faster Manifested in the waggling of tails Greeting people, dogs never fail.

They dont BITE even if you scold them They never 'JUDGE' human beings All the good they are worth seeing And they would defend you like kings.

Over the years until their death They would never change unlike us When we sometimes fail our friends But dogs seldom make ammends.

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#### Wings Of The Heart

Wings of the Heart Heart of the Wings

Wandering over hills and river Amidst summer and winter Flying through rain and mist Embracing nature like French kiss.

It hovered and looked around Then it suddenly came along For awhile it was lost then found Deep within, happiness abound.

The wings flapped in endless fashion The heart beating in mixed passion Looking at the flowers in void space Moving up and down in a maze.

Wings soaring, heart palpitating Reaching out and falling down Picking up the crushed pieces Mending up the broken traces

If a heart can fly so high I'll freely and gladly let it be Ill keep it beating for love Soaring high and flying above.

The flight it seemed like a scribble Like notes and poems written clearly Making waves like water ripple Of music in fashion classic.

For real or even in a mirage Wanting to believe as such A heart beating for the world Wings flying like a humming chord.

(Clifforce Poetics, July 2011)

Poetry in a rhyme That never ages in time.