**Poetry Series** 

# Ghost Legend - poems -

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# A Calamity Strange

Keep What you say-Maintain The name. Symbols Don't define me. Treason Is paid Through tranquility. Consider me A calamity Strange. You, And your rites, Are a type Of craze.

So, While you hold Those Lies, Ι Will uphold The Night. See It unfold-The Bright Only blinds The eyes То Demise. I'||Set alight, Aligning The right. You've lost Your minds.

I Can't be confined Or dined— Rather die Than Lie.

Being Stripped Of Mine

Is also Stripped Of Your kind.

# A Cottage Thunderstorm

I met a girl, And she was fine, Dancing in candlelight. It changed my world When she declined The jewels in my eyes.

Another twirl, Another guy gets up in line. Her skirt unfurls As the night deepens our sky.

Outside, it's raining; I feel it coming on. This humidity's suffocating— I won't last long.

Why do thunderstorms Have to ruin all? The dew begins to burn My lucid hands as I call.

This is the right number To take me past this To my home. It doesn't matter what occurred— None of it can be solved.

I last saw that girl With a guy dancing behind, And another one in front of her thighs. It appears that they'll share love for one lonely night. Outside, the sky seems so bright, So peaceful, and so alive.

# A Dip In

I had a dream I slept in seams, And my life was given away. Strangest part was how I beamed, Until noticing how far I'd strayed.

It was not irrevocable— It could all remain the same. My secret leaking was improbable: It could all have stayed a game.

Yet, sorrow hit my heart— Upon feeling purity gone. I could no longer claim these stars Were meant for only one.

# A Fantasy

I dream of a place so lively That death ceases to be. Here, with interactions hearty, No one wishes to flee.

She loves for more than face, Her betrothed more than waist, And all do not consider waste Hands held at steady pace.

No excuses here found Terminating youth and sound. None hide underground Below flowered mounds.

There is no such pain As that of life in vain. None play doctored games, Then opt for change.

That was it, and clear I saw How we clawed above all Making this reality And that a fantasy.

# A Pebble In The Lake

I see our existence For what it is: A lonely world, filled With lonely kids, Somehow still pretending They can fix Inevitability.

There's nothing I can say To help you. And there's nothing said To help me. You'll be well on your way, Once we're through. I wonder what's the issue?

Life goes on, when we're gone; Our thoughts and dreams mean Little.

If you think of how you've wronged, You'll find yourself deserving. There's nothing to be but swearing, Nothing to gain but gaining. Prepare to lose a remainder, Only for others to choose the same.

# A Time To Rise

This is the time to rise— When clouds cover the sky, And dark thunder rolls by, We hinder bloody night.

Seize wind on swings; Make it play as a violin. Cup rain into drinks With drops of dirt for gin.

Let moonshine be a sign For wine truly of time. Humidity conditions life; Our temperatures are ripe.

It is our time to rise— Bathe in rivers' height. The Sun's rays will light Our souls until we bite.

# Adieu

She assumes that I'm dying to see her soon. Just cue in that attention, Won't you? We're fools in this maze without a clue As to who in the blaze bids us adieu.

Forgive us for forsaking that silver spoon, Or ignoring how your every whim it woos. It must have been the grimmest news To know there are limits to whom you do.

Enough of that, though—enough of rue. Pat my head as if our friendship were true.

# All Want To Be The Only

All want to be the only Ones donning silk robes, Ones fawned at in droves, Ones king of the throne.

History's tale, is it not? Look at all the havoc brought, Then ask if it's for naught. No, not for naught.

For if the coin falls from loin, If those slain are in vain, What is there to gain? Where is there to aim? Who is there to join?

# Alloyed

What I'd do for another whisper from that voice, Pleading, bleeding, calling out for my choice. Say' it'd been the wrong waist—a waste Within horses of troy, chasing a pace Now void.

Rejoice.

You've taken this, ran away with it, coy. Can't stop to think about any other toy. Sensed the outing on a hunt—being prey Sounded fun; the noise Brought pleasure to the poise, Once begun,

Alloyed.

# **Always Beautiful**

Thought of us as always beautiful. You and I Before the skies first burnt our eyes, Back when in our minds were no present lies: Every previous time.

A present, one of a kind, has been Slowed growth—Admire How then it was thought we'd never die. These bodies, rotting, would feel alive.

An extra chance, additional hook in line, Would come, land, through the book of sire. Father, who art thou in remembrance, choir, For the hymns have failed to freeze fire?

I stare at my hands,

As a student suggests their shake never ends. What a weird thing is this, in the end.

# Am I Human At Night?

I have two sides. One I like, And one I despise. Marked by life, And enticed, Am I human at night?

So characterized by their gestures That it is metal to chew. If in life there's a heaven, I must tell you, it is cruel,

As it allows what we go through, And condones what we do. The earliest chance at death Would not be too soon.

Then again, why live? Why exist in the first place? It'll take all life to forgive The existence of my birthplace.

# An Apple Tree

I used to speak with an apple tree— She was ready to please. It was time for her fruits to be Eaten in Thanksgiving.

Her fruits were largely fresh And not penetrated by any worm. It was time for the world to mesh Throughout her juices, turn by turn.

I invited her to join my family— To forget about nature's plea. Yet she couldn't resist that calling— She denied me.

The crowds gathered in distress About how I rejected the fruit they yearned "I cut that tree down, " I confessed. "And oh—she burned and burned! "

# An Incomplete Meadow Song

Is it best to leave words unsaid? Would that be the correct movement? Is it the most soothing path to take When an unruly heart breaks?

It is my wish to speak of a meadow song That was never fully arranged. Some parts came together before long, But it was never truly ordained.

Bad weather rejected the artist proper sight, Thus he was left to compose at night. When it was over, the Sun was perceived too bright To merit believing its light.

Hence, he traveled with the storm, Selecting sorrow as treasures to adorn His meter and fever for scorn All through to the morning.

When he awoke, he spoke, but was unable to believe That his words lacked coherence in the breeze. He cursed the faraway Heavens as a fiend And chased eternally.

# Apocalypse

Soon enough all you've wrought shall come to fruition. Soon, my child, the one exiled will appear from the innards Of this place, mask on face revealed as a devil's sister, And dance, dance, still with man, a rising smoke from dinner.

# Are You Lonely, Too?

These skies are hidden from me. Among the protuberance of night, I see only white, a ceiling, With walls gathering at its sides.

Enclosures compose our Death, reproduction woes, where The opposite solely knows; here Rules are never told.

Thus is my luck that A deal was struck, now, then, Before I could come to count, lest I'd stare at skin.

A being, forever left to think Of byes to the past And possibilities it had, Which, by now, have been Forgotten.

# Artificial Light

There's a certain sparkle illuminating the night, Yet I should know it's a disguise. Your kind has always lied through eyes And pushed to the edge mankind. Why would you even try To seduce my inner pride? It's enough to know nature presides Over the momentum of life. But again, why, when these lies Are not but for the love of light? Why, then, rejoice in captured might, When you ultimately inject spite? I suppose it's a struggle to survive.

Move on, Artificial Light. Illuminate someone else's sky. The night may not be bright, But it's authentic in sight.

# **Baby-Talk**

Whoa, that's over. Tried again and failed. Guess the job was never ideal For my talents, my will, And so it is the wills of others That now determines my fall. And I'm aware of it all, Every dawn and nightfall, In how the years stroll about, Leaving me not much but worry, doubt. Doors that close, never to open, no way out. Nothing and nothing but more pain of loss Of what I have left.

Failure of failures, what's next? Can't even connect to an audience, Too abstract, too conscious, too imaginative A subconscious Loser. Poetic genius of idiocy Just like everything around us-Smokescreens.

And that's why I'm baby-talking to you, Trying to phrase it to an approximate level, So that my inability to fit in or stand out nulls Itself, and I can reach a hand, bow, and whisper, My mouth mumbling this insane rhythm That no one should listen to.

#### But I'm smitten!

Glistening in its fiction, it's moronic, faux wisdom-How the high and mighty voice misses every detail! It fixes me for a second, and I feel like I'm winning. I feel like I matter a bit, like if I could make it, Like if there's a reason for my making, Like if we're not apes on Earth untamed, Like if the energy that created us isn't evil, Not God, not named, just a frame of something Harry Potter-ish- fine- evil in its being, For none of this should be.

Oh, wait, am I losing you? Hold up, let me slow it down. Don't go just yet! I'm just saying that none of this, None of us Should exist. Science or no science. Whatever this is, is evil. No conscience to it, plain evil Scientists said it looks for energy And wants more, at whatever expense, Even in the smallest of spaces, In the smallest of nothings. We're its atoms, so it actually does have a conscience (correction) We're the Gods we dreamt.

In the expanse, we go, In relative milliseconds, flow Into the next expansion.

For no reason. For no meaning. No, not even in women; They're just pretty men. Lol, you get what I mean. And, even if you don't, One day I will be free And these will be letters No one ever reads.

Already is.

### Be Nothing, Be Gone

When the suffering ends, I'll be nothing, be gone. Righted shall be wrongs, As my ashes flash, then Disappear amongst throngs.

No way to look back, hold on, To a face now lacked, love. No shame leaving matters unsolved, Or gains unamassed, lust.

Those stresses which make us move on Will be as if consumed by dawn. Those lessons that darkened our lungs Shall come to lose motivation.

Life is not where we belong, But how oblivion provides salvation. I've known all along,

When the suffering ends, I'll be nothing, be gone. Righted shall be wrongs, As my ashes flash, then Disappear amongst throngs.

# **Beyond The Body**

What are we, beyond our bodies, The eyes, mouth, and hair? Is there truly something unique there? I'm not so sure. Because outside of blinking, Eating, and fixing, why are we here? Nothing else to do; when gone, No one cares. Born believing magic in the world, That all of us serve special purposes, Until seeing the truth; We survive, tire, Then everyone and everything continues.

# Blow Me Away

Say what you say— Do as you may; Love me in darkness— Love me at day. Give me a word kiss; Whatever you make, Make sure you blow me away.

And as I'm blown, Don't call me on the phone. When I'm in town, You'll be close but not around. Your future will smile Or frown, But I won't be in there now— No way, no how.

# Breaths

Breathing over me, Wind passes through trees Before a storm, Vulnerable In more than one. No one will rake the leaves, Bare for who seeks Damage done. Nature's wrath apart, Come next season Ten open trunks Wait for a spark That was there already. Fire to ashes freedom, Better as exhaust, Make of what is left, Than rot here.

# **Cathartic Paralysis**

Most of our lives are lived in paralysis Metropolis to Metropolis: It is never adequate. This fixation on a catalysis— A changing, ultimate catharsis— Proves our nature as languid.

We fail to effectively relinquish That vividly desolate image Which lures us on pilgrimage. On this search, we do not live. Our research cannot fix Unachievable bliss.

My life was intensified by an element— That named woman. I sought to understand the strands of hair Belonging to bodies so fair. Yet, now I remain adamant About the measures of the Vatican To patronize their secret lairs. Their bodies are extravagant, But, like Larkin, not fit To satisfy my affairs.

Everyone has one, and then, upon Disappointment, another search has begun. The road continues down the slope, and then some, But it never is done.

# **Change Of Mirrors**

There's a mirror only clearly seen When near and speaking admirably, But, behind this, there's another far away— When blinded, it distorts your face.

A prism's involved in every single breath In your presence or absentmindedness. As Dorian Gray, so many curtains are set, But none may cover our mutual hideousness.

How beautiful we are around each other, though— What a memory to be wrapped by your bosom's hold! Too bad its lax, and the true temperament is cold, For I appreciated the lack of open scold.

One held my arm, and another blew her love; Female charms are as beautiful as doves. One promised friendship, and then turned against me; Male loyalty has valor like poultry.

# **Clouds Are Low Tonight**

Here I sit, watching life waste away, Knowing the movie should end well, But that reality will not.

Here I sit, recognizing my tragedy In all its assertive, lonesome power I cannot stop.

Yes, here I sit, assuming no one Will read this, and, if they did, Could very well skip the lot.

As I sit, it's becoming old to say How abandoned I've been At night, at day, by all.

With nothing left, but to sit, I feel Similar to riding up hills, While their fireworks popped.

My pain, their pleasure, their thrill, Like a female used, still, In festive, putrid lust.

# Compatriot

I wonder what you are: My savior, compatriot, Or another Kind of creature Willing to lose me. As an opportunist, Could you? If so, how so? To do this, Would you abandon All the promises, Premises, Never looking back? What would happen? Might I stand it, Or will I be gone In whom I thought you were, Searching for love, once again Where none exists? I've found an exception; Are you one, too, Worth trusting my truth, Loving anew? A human, filled with wonders Worth exploration, An inner, habitable planet-Is there life, for life, For us to know?

# **Dancing Along**

In my dreams I see all their faces: Those who left, those who stayed here. I don't want to spend all my days here. I don't want to run all of my nights here.

In the dreams, I'm an audience member; They sit on me like if I am not there. Timberlake performs to a standing ovation. Children dance as if they have something.

There's no one seated behind us at all. I suppose that's supposed to mean something. I ask Guillermo where we're going, if we can go now; He says not until you talk to Carmen.

I've already spoken too many times to that woman; I can't compromise my values to move on. Is that why I'm stuck? Is that why I'm stuck? The smiling teachers subtly shift their jackets,

Dancing along.

# Days By The Seashore

What is man if not a shadow of himself, And a shadow of every measure dealt In sculpturing his torso's timely welts?

What is woman if not a mere seam To be reminisced, stitched in memory Appropriately where fashion dwells?

That is why all is swell; That is why all we waltz— We are all shells of ourselves, Lying by the seashore.

### **Dead Hearts**

You will fade away as a memory, here. Two never live without parting ways, dear. Yet I will stand by, waiting for the 'all-clear, ' Before truth comes to show just how wrong we were,

And in this moment, I want to capture forever. Never let it go, dream of us till sun dawn. I've lost too much, be damned if you're not the one. Tell me the lie of love, if I'll believe it for hours. Tell me the lie of love, if I'll believe it for hours. (Chorus)

I've seen eyes hold whole worlds and make them disappear, The inside of a person have no real meaning. Life expects us to move on, without a care, But I still see you there- I still see you there.

And in this moment, I want to capture forever. Never let it go, dream of us till sun dawn. I've lost too much, be damned if you're not the one. Tell me the lie of love, if I'll believe it for hours. Tell me the lie of love, if I'll believe it for hours. (Chorus)

Seconds tick away, leaving nothing but dead hearts; I'll find a way to keep yours, as a memento. Show him all the wonders you learned from us, Because our time happened. It's never gone: What we had happened- we're never apart.

And in this moment, I want to capture forever. Never let it go, dream of us till sun dawn. I've lost too much, be damned if you're not the one. Tell me the lie of love, if I'll believe it for hours. Tell me the lie of love, if I'll believe it for hours. (Chorus)

# **Dead Shall Rise**

Those thought dead shall rise, Bleed into the sun; For the smoke from fire Is never higher Than when it is thought done. Alight paths serve as guide To sides not yet roamed. Not a flip of coin, roll of dice, Nor hand dealt thrice Can be forever won. Winner's faces ashed in fright, A depleted greed from bone. Other villagers aspire As those ghosts tire Of set fires to homes.

# Del Sol Y La Luna

Una isla desesperada Me enseño Que el sol y la luna Nunca se separan. Despertó En mí miles veladas De rencor.

Pues es así Que ví El sonreir Morir. Como cualquier animal, Reaccionaba, Mente y garras. Percibí Las intenciones reales.

Toda boca hace más Que besar. Cada naris tiene cual Que buscar, y busca. Una mano puede pegar Invitando caricias. Estas distinciones Lo hacen todo.

# **Donald Trump**

Up out the crib, I always thought of this as something missed, one day immaculate,

If the puzzle pieces fit, and no one messed with it, or triggered a hit, often present.

We might just have learned our lessons; the lord had given us his blessings, perhaps back when

Everything changed. Martin had been shot and death became our reverend, made us see within.

That was then,

This is now. The crowds spew hate from town to town. Polls are a rout, voting shouts it loud:

" There's nothing different about the white man from the south,

Or from the east, or from the west, from Africa to the polar cap."

We have Europeans banning Syrians from Harry Potter Land, playing borderchess.

It's a huuge movement across the map. Hillary says love trumps hatred, but I'm not feeling a kiss,

Nah, I'm feeling a whip, mace cans for race protests, while they play with facts, make us

The enemies, new targets on our backs. New chains we're wearing, back to the past, like we never left.

What next?

Donald Trump's the Republican presidential candidate, oh, right, yes.

# Dream Of Lovely Japan

Lost all hope in the dirt... Don't think flowers bloom again. Held on to fertilizer... Until realizing its earthy. Take a shovel, bury me Next to your undergarments. Send the coffin somewhere foreign; I loved to dream of lovely Japan— Amongst all those cherry blossoms, Earthquakes must be an awakening. That should be the perfect comfort: Reckless inaction.

# Drop Upon Drop

Drop upon drop, fate bangs away On imminent loss: liquid evaporating. We only go up, condense our beings, To unavoidably fall Through insipid fleeing.

A cycle undeniable, casual In how reliable our reactions are. Failure to question all rituals Tipping healthiness to lard.

Spars for a farce— Wars through a marsh— Horses that tarnish Themselves at the smallest Of sparks.

Bars for the heart— Limbs in tar— Are enough to collect All beliefs, regret In a jar.

# Each Day

Each day, I awaken to much the same things: A reload of cases and beings Followed by potatoes and beans. Layered up, heeding lust down the streets, The pace awaits severity. These daily meetings, Transmissions and transgressions, Seek to alleviate caving feelings Through remissions. As much as I ignite the ignition, The mission is still missing, Writhing, unconsciously leading Me on Freedom; King Kong Holding long After she's gone.

## Episode

I know why the world improves in centimeters: Human beings are nothing but evil. They say it's okay, Lie to your face as if knowing better, But we all pay, every people.

There are stars in our minds, Distractions from sleeping, Perfection, ultimate attainment, Yet in the ocean Someone is weeping. In the ocean, Someone stopped breathing.

The lifeless bodies float By cruise ships, boats, And someone pokes Row after row. Thus, the person next to me spoke— "She gets into a fight this episode! "

## Expectations

Expect nothing from people, Except cruelty. And even in kindness, Suspect cruelty. For there is nothing on Earth Done without reason That begins and ends in Self-serving.

# Fiery Dark Opals

Fiery dark opals light up the sky; Only if we could grasp these minds Around touch of sights, lick of limes, Outstretched intimacies of our time, Would we see but choose not to mind, Would eat yet stop a meal's define, Would breathe within our allotted kind, Without a thought to be inclined. Yet, as with toxins, we're left outstretched, Glaring at infinite greed, an endlessness, For the fiery dark opals were in her eyes And in mine.

# Fire

When the leaves touch down, there remains a fire, So much deeper than merely words. Say all that you want me to hear, love, Because both of us know we'll burn.

Woods lie in the dark, await the spark; There's more than one way to flame. No one dares come at this time of day; We're the best made of company.

Don't let death consume; Breathe, breathe again.

### Flesh In Chains

Flesh in chains— Are you kidding me? Is this a game? It has to be. Perhaps some sort of sadomasochistic flame That extinguishes itself with enough pain?

It's as a picture, Yet I'm lost in the frame. Some coarse, mystic scripture That has me wandering and wondering If this is the correct way To handle those deranged, If our methods are, in fact, Sane.

I'm tied to this; I can't redo it. We're lost in A lethal influence. These dog chains rattle In confluence. I'm losing my mettle, Where's my endurance?

Our hearts beat faster in this tense spot. Our minds' schemes fasten up to rot. Is this a dream? How unreal it seems To be jotted under their Heaven's gleam.

There's no light—I find only artificial cold. Their money might buy nice houses as you get old, As your soul is sold, As you're as an Eskimo, As you betray your people.

## For A Time

For a time, she held his hand, and knew they were the same. It was sudden, as a change of pulse is, those grips tightened: First, in all the softness found in love's adventure of new terrain. Then, in the lushness of wet grasses under a sun's escapade. Passing time, while holding hands, there she noticed a difference: Something fierce would pierce through, making his feel rigid. They pondered every obstacle, every rock, that came between them, Each particle turned to doubt, their walks a scientific procedure. It was then, as she held hands, she knew they were not the same, Not equals in any way, separated as human beings, For in that time, and through it, she saw what he became: Hardened by experiences, a heart solid full of pain.

#### Fountains Of Youth

If we drink from the beautiful water, Does it still run still? Or is there a chance it loses something, As you're being fulfilled?

Fountains of youth gravitate toward us: Dreams within a dream. Mountains do not levitate islands-They seem to let off steam.

Someone said, 'If you keep pulling at a thread, You'll watch the whole thing unravel.' Family's ripe with people building it, A tight-knit castle.

When the water flushes downward, Statues turn to marble. Amid the downpour, the ruckus, Feet are made bare by gravel.

Fountains of youth gravitate toward us: Dreams within a dream. Mountains do not levitate islands-They seem to let off steam.

I'll be there to see, Where this leads, If only alone, Under trees.

### Free

You won't receive anything from me, So stare—I don't care. Your visions are incomplete. Go ahead and gossip down hallway stairs.

There are those who don't prefer to be free; Society's chains to them are pleasant dreams. I rather avoid the nightmarish scenes Involving being tied to those called "family."

Our definitions differ, Can't you see? Nature's goal is to blossom, not to cease. If a rose by the river is surrounded by weeds, Should we let it wither because they all share leaves?

# Friendship Goals

He stares, deep into my heart, Searching, offering love. Hair that flows down Long, eyes of— Toward Heaven. Lips, thick, hum Temptation, Ol' treat you better. Clicks can't escape His window, No one else here.

#### Game Collection

Let's pretend this game's not over; We don't know what comes next. I'd love to be a cardholder, Wouldn't you like to play chess?

I've seen the steps, the ending lanes, Those you think about the same. Where and when our ogre's tamed Couldn't begin rattling its cage.

For, yes, there is no point In wailing about lost loins, Or a coin here, these vain fears Are indeed faced in joint.

Yet, I wonder, if we didn't have to, Just what you'd say. If you'd take my hand to sleep again, Or start your own voyage.

Power-up the arcade.

#### Geisha

Why are women Geisha? No, not in a white mask, But in their breath and past? What a confusing behavior!

These would-be entertainers Practice seduction as a craft, Returning one of many favors To the wallet that can match The Highest Bidder's.

Yet, to the rest of men and women, Being in their presence is refuted, Due to not being up to task In economic terms, at last.

There is another type of Geisha; One that succumbs to faces, Dressing as a doll with make-up And filling victims with hatred.

Women who cannot look past The superficial layers attached To one's true demeanor— Denouncing any pass Made by those who took a chance At loving their figure.

What a confusing behavior!

### Gone

In the end, we're defeated by life. There is no shining knight— There is no dawning day. We stay wherever we can, And when its over, then, We're gone with the wind.

I'd like to say something different, Something uplifting, But it's a flow within currents, Whether you have insurance To deal with strict adherence To procedure and demeanor Every obstacle's finite details— A life of features.

## Gone By Night

I've said all there is to say, Awake from dawn to further days. Although I'm young, time's soon late. Death's clock's tick-ticking away. What I've done wrong, can't explain. Don't belong to corrupt games. Gone by night, always. Gone by night, just you wait. It is in my mind that I am free. I arise in soundless sleep, Where I can lie, graciously, Through the place where life's a dream.

## Hands Up

Hands up, he's down, Obscuring your vision; Black's too dark a pigment To avoid that truck hittin', So they hit em' Without thinking Once, less twice, or three times.

Everyone knows violent types. Take their face as the sign And watch the judge signing, "No evidence for prosecution, Just time off: Vacations with payments due, then." He goes to Ebay, sells his weapon For 250,000— Maybe buy a grand private home with. America's bliss.

Don't forget the immigrants, White man's deepest regret. Europeans have been here first, Way before any native descendants. So keep em' beyond the borders, Even the young and toddlers; Build a wall so high up That Melania smiles for us.

Hands up, he's down, Obscuring your vision; Any color's too dark a pigment To avoid our truck hittin', So let's hit em' Without thinking Once, less twice, or three times.

## Haunted By Rue

In the moonlight, I'm haunted by rue; At noontide, the waves crystallize us, But how could this be if we were nothing? I assume that is the freedom of inaction.

You said your body would be mine too, If and when I'd come only inside you. That should, then, be for him to discover. I was before him, lower number as a lover.

When the streamline pulls out, And everything is left to loll about, You'll see the emptiness in being finished; That precious image will have diminished.

#### Haven

Haven't slept in a few days; From Sunday to Tuesday, But I just don't get it. Where does one day begin And another one here end? I've lost track of all time.

My speech is slurring; I'm wasting away Debating racists And all these websites Show me the truth inherent Of what no one bothers to find: Bloodshot eyes at a Syrian genocide.

Chlorine seems a bad way of dying, And starvation could be much worse. I'm supposed to sit here smiling, When I know here comes my turn. An atheist, but feel like praying, Because I don't want us to be alone. When the time comes, I'd like a say, "I hope you have a soul."

I hope your heart is pure. I hope you're saying the truth. I hope, for you.

# Hear Me Cry

No one hears me cry, But I do: It's all the way inside. I'm so screwed.

# Hell's Fire

I've kissed a demon's lips Amidst the loveliest mist This life has ever missed. To be remiss in reminiscence Has extended the waiting periods— Cannot let go of the figments, the essence Of forgotten promises: evanescence.

Hell's fire Hisses.

Lie before me, again, Only to make it last, my friend. In a world full of pretense, That's how to begin And end.

Hell's fire Mends.

### Here I Am

Here I am; I am The man, the man Misunderstood, Wandering again, Awkward in every look, Black one of the kin, Winning each day he stood. Here I am; I am The man you left for dead, A rising fist above Creation: This nook of dirt Referred as Earth, bitter burial, Zombie as your cause, to mine. Here I am; I am A long-forgotten lover, Hoping to be someone You'll never know of.

# Here Is

Light flickers upon the tank; It explodes, vision is sank Below the surface glass.

A beauty figure, of rank— Wonderful woman, I think; Here is life's utmost lass.

No, it's a crystal drink, In joy of life it basks: Here is the end of fast.

Wait, but it's fate in mask. I see the sand land, lack; Here is Grave's hour-glass.

# High Again

Listen to those sounds, her moans Of pure orgasm—You know There's not a way back by morning. A cab will pick her up—a goner. No pick-ups, no tones. Even if she does, supposed We knew what this was before it started. Why should casualness be bothered?

## Human Construction

On one of my last strolls, I saw a mountain range and thought, "The world's a painting, is it not? What a brilliant imitation... What exuberant delineation Covers every single spot Of beauty in all nations As ingredients in a pot..."

A little after then, I stopped And watched The travelers in march, Sullen, starched, Dressed at large, Joking, and whatnot; Clothing formal worth noting Or scarce and provoking To cover the need for eloping Through better jobs.

That was when the question was brought: "Who's imitating—the world or the paintings... Or are they confabulating to construct us? "

## **Hunters And Guineas**

I clicked through them, wondering if there's one

Willing to say, "Hi, " or spend some time, at least staying a while. 5: 30 a.m., the sun approaches, but the night feels at its darkest now;

The rumble fumbles and tumbles: My pride a mistreated animal.

To realize it's all gone: The world made of us nothing, destroying what's left around.

I just saw your beauty, I just saw it truly, being paid to take and fall down; That used to be you, that could've been us, if it weren't for what rules us all. I'm so close to death; I feel the heft, yet the hatred wants to hug.

I wish I could say sorry for all I've done, and your Armageddon, alone,

But time has us trapped; I can't go back. Can't even imagine this solved,

For now I see what we are: Hunters and Guineas—nothing more.

## Ignorance

Someone tell me it isn't the truth— Who could imagine a slaughter this magnitude? People's passions viciously fused For the worst of reasons to be used.

A war between ideas, far and near, Yet both sides have reasons to be feared. Populations ignorant of religion's steer— Infiltrated by extremists in political careers.

How many must die before we realize That punishment and "justice" combine to form a lie? Humans are known for their ability to idealize, Yet many still mourn their loved one's side.

Educate and compensate visionaries of a new world. Do not hesitate, but make haste to unfurl A tabula rasa engraved with messages of pearls Hidden in the ocean, but longing to be murals.

# Ignore

A horse was unleashed today, as a sign of envy. The goal was to shorten my day, excruciating time's ending. How do we stop hate, pain, and ingrates of life, Who would rather see others in strife than might?

He walked a gentle path, unaware that the move Sought to lure his blood towards streets to ooze— As if his death could improve The incredible mess they deal with this afternoon. A life of hatred only brews and brews.

It's never right to implore those bored; Who chooses to adore such a futile chore? Our paths to the shore May be troubled by moors, But we can always, eternally, Ignore.

# Ignored By The World

Chase! Chase it down To the town And back, if needed.

The pace! It exhilarates: The sound And speed of a cheetah.

A prey So Astray and Bound by graves of Unforgiving features:

Becoming Caves Hidden about The World Stage's shade On Poor Syria!

## In Memoriam

Could you hold me For just one second? Let every pain be Faint light, slowly dwindling. The act of living Is a straightjacket, Mingling, and I'm coming Off the market.

Do you see that far ahead, Each relative, lover, friend, Dead? Gone is even Your place of origin; Next, shall be everything Written in memoriam.

# Income In The Bank

Sitting in the secretary's office, I ask When they are hiring, or if the time Has passed. "You cannot replace those here, " she says, "Or in any other place, I fear, unless A political dealer is your friend."

Aghast,

Memories, of not long back, blast Freshly into the present frame. That man,

Colleague, fellow student, master Of planning, knew when to grasp At his supervisor's egoistic mass And tame.

I offer my thanks And leave, Not regretting, although displeased At the punishment on my attempts Toward an honest path. What's left to wonder? I guess If the chunks Of his soul sold are worth Income in the bank.

### **Inner Silence**

Sometimes, it's better not to speak Than to be judged for your words. Excuse me for not believing in fairies, I was raised by this dirt Where some of the only things with wings Are butterflies, And the stuff of old men's dreams Are lies. See, we may never see eye to eye, But I promise I would never categorize You as good or evil, because that's a disguise. It takes true talent to accept both sides.

Welcome to my world: I was raised in a haze Where you remained in a book all day Of fortunetellers' bid for power, Until I noticed how we spent every hour. It's an excuse not to pursue A life worth living in this jungle's zoo. The pain becomes too much to construe A purpose without magic to rule.

Isn't it enough to see beauty in the morning sky? I believe that if the truth were in everyone's mind They'd huddle together instead of waiting for pleasure In another life.

# It Shall Be Longer

She held him close, No words were spoken. Such loss of hope In a second to hold him. Hellos are farewells Once and over Again, we are awoken By the same place Of slumber. One day, longer.

## It Was Only Ever A Glimpse

A glimpse at the mirror shows clearly My blurry reflection. Too many lessons have been tearing At these senses. The phase of glorified flesh ended, Yet I never knew when it commenced, Or where it headed.

It's grown nearly impossible to see the eyes. I've always had trouble establishing "me." Lo and behold, what a surprise That I've continued disfiguring.

Tormented and rejected by the lust of dreams, My hate has drawn to sleep. Who wants to awaken smothering An impossible fantasy?

A clock keeps ticking, And with this hangs fate. They make it sound endearing, But it's hard accepting you'll be late.

Suppose it fair to say How confused I remained, But at my dying day, I was a different being.

# Jump Off

She loves to jump off Every single precipice At a sequence, Abandoning one victim; Always a diamond Taken from a woman With that vixen Allure. Those primal savages Want to savage her; She'll mine for it-Amor. Any cliff too high Must want caves Inside. Only graves provide Ardor. She'll jump far enough, Bury your love, Take every treasure You have and run off To only search for Another hilltop And blood diamonds Galore.

# Land

Our land has become Death's brothel— Collection of soft hands and hardened muzzles. Lives canned to display strength or gain muscle, Splattering remains in joyous, endless tussles.

It has turned to game, wrestling The sane to deranged—nestling A thirst for revenge and rendering These actions Heavenly dependent.

Our fear provides the rumors Gearing towards cowardly tumors— Rearing a supply of awkward humor. For as we rise from fumes of Imminent funerals, The existential question comes to pressure: What in life is there to treasure?

### Layers

Adventure in my hands, strangers feel close, Those of bribery which never palm, never fold. A whole world trembles, under the shake; Innocents become rebels, applauding Crowd-surfing will, boardwalk blessings Born allergic to the ocean—yet something Lurks, past my reach, tall and mighty.

# Lighting The Match

Who would believe that a leaf holds such power As to influence the quality of one's daily hours? So repugnant is the nature of what we admire That it determines the fate of all held truly ours.

You, leaf, dictate our lives to such a degree That even husbands and wives may be determined by thee. The young man who bangs leaves out of an old lady's tree, And the young woman whose lips in deed cause ecstasy.

We may never comprehend the extent to which this mechanism controls us. Inequality's reign never ends—as it remains impervious. You know which alternative could be glorious? If we all, one day, burned down the forest.

# Lolled

How many of us have you crushed? About as many as you've sucked The life out of. That space separating love From hatred lately is small-Starting from answering Your every call, To having my ring Not picked up at all, And your ring Brought back to the mall. My name can be screamed In much too many Ways for me To recall, Yet I'll still vainly fall For your shiny twin, Lolled.

## Lost In A Sea Of Beauty

I want to be free, Lost in a sea of beauty, Fleeing life's tragedy.

I have come to accept That only through death Will I ever escape the irony.

I will miss her, Though I'm still unsure Whether she's a figment Of my imagination.

If death means peace, Maybe it's meant to be.

# Lost In The Land

I am lost, in this land, Where no man can sit, where no man can stand. No one understands, until the end, There's nothing to commit, nothing to hand. Those highest peaks, beloved sands, Trail our falls, down where they begin. For it is not for what is man, But how was, and how not, In living.

# Lost In The Memory

I am lost in the memory Between what was, what could be, And what is. A situation impossible to fix: My own Rubik's ruby.

Thoughts too far away to foresee Leave me shocked—wishing to flee My death wish. No contemplation survives amidst Rigid bombarding.

So it is, in this spot so tiny, That I continue lost until a thought reminds me That I am still in the mist Of inexistence— That I continue lost in the memory.

# Loved

All I wanted was to be loved. I thought I saw it through innocent touch, But it ended up with innocence lost. Now, I find myself searching out of lust.

One hand holds another hand— I am too young to understand That this rhythm is banned. My love has to change.

# Lying In The Shade

The shade of colors delineate A taste of odors below her waist. Chaste hors d'œuvres come before our main plates To decorate the borders for escape.

I think we'll all have an order, In its most primal, innate state. Make it rare, so we can bear Our putrid, human fate.

Continue putting it out there; It's life, and it's only fair. Let's all eat it without a care Until it soothes our crude fears.

## Mamá

Mamá—Má—Mamá— Aguantano' pa' 'tra. Mamá—Mamá—Mamá— Vamo' pa' encima. Si viento aguantara, Si el pudiera, Yo me lanzaría A la ma' profunda Cueva que encontrara En esta tierra Pa' esconderme de aquella Asesina vida.

Mamá—Má—Mamá— Aguantano' pa' 'tra. Mamá—Mamá—Mamá— Vamo' pa' encima. Mamá—Má—Mamá— ¿Qué de nosotros será? Mamá—Mamá—Mamá— Somos colonia.

Mamá—Má—Mamá— Viene' pa' `ca. Mamá—Mamá—Mamá— Vas a goberna'. Mamá—Má—Mamá, Hubiera' vota'o po' Obama. Mamá—Mamá—Mamá— Parece que nos odia'.

Mamá—Má—Mamá, Vuelo pa' `lla. Mamá—Mamá—Mamá— Regreso una vez ma'. Mamá—Má—Mamá, No me quieres en na'. Mamá—Mamá—Mamá— No tengo hoga'. Translation:

Mama—Ma—Mama— Hold us back. Mama—Mama—Mama— Let's move on. If the wind would hold me, If it could, I would launch myself Into the deepest Cave I could discover On this land To hide from that Killer life.

Mama—Ma—Mama— Hold us back. Mama—Mama—Mama— Let's move on. Mama—Ma—Mama— What will become of us? Mama—Mama—Mama— We're a colony.

Mama—Ma—Mama— You're coming here. Mama—Mama—Mama— You'll govern. Mama—Ma—Mama— We should've voted for Obama. Mama—Mama—Mama— It looks like you hate us.

Mama—Ma—Mama— I'll fly over there. Mama—Mama—Mama— I'll come back here. Mama—Ma—Mama— You don't want me anywhere. Mama—Mama—Mama— I don't have a home.

# Misao Fujimura

A boy writes dying Thoughts of lost love on a tree And leaves it mourning.

### Monotone

He walked up to me, Shook my hand, Then began Rants About past Events-History. Strangely, I stared, Wondering If he were Aware That lady Called him Crazy Next to me For walking Past the Unemployment Line Multiple times. "Twenty years Ago, Such and such Was here. No es lo mismo-Government's cleared Our opportunity to steer The economy Alone."

Conversation ended Monotone.

### **Moving Along**

Your face reminds me Of a time before This world made us Become someone. I'm tired of a life in entertainment; I've never been much of a performer.

I think I'll be happy when we're long gone. I think I'll be glad to be moving along. I'm terrified, but who isn't among us? Wouldn't you be happy when the suffering Is done? Wouldn't you be happy moving along? (Chorus)

I, for one, want to see it all, But I cannot, so I'll imagine you Were able to, had everything lost, And no one stopped, not of one them Stopped you, but

I think I'll be happy when we're long gone. I think I'll be glad to be moving along. I'm terrified, but who isn't among us? Wouldn't you be happy when the suffering Is done? Wouldn't you be happy moving along? (Chorus)

Perform, perform, let them swallow their scorn; You're the girl whom everybody wants To bring down, but you keep lifting up This entire world which makes all of us arrive.

I think I'll be happy when we're long gone. I think I'll be glad to be moving along. I'm terrified, but who isn't among us? Wouldn't you be happy when the suffering Is done? Wouldn't you be happy moving along? (Chorus)

## Nature Of The Game

I asked some folks today What the meaning of life was, If it's worth sticking around. There was nothing they could say. Told me to keep going, Until my head hit the ground. C'est la vie, they claim. It was time to let go Of the lost and found. Nature of the game, simply, And there is nothing but to play.

### **Never Atrophied**

I now know much— Perhaps too much To ever be happy. Sorrow is the norm With which I adorn Desolate valleys, But beyond that—I yearn To earn life's trophies, And that is a beautiful feeling Never atrophied.

## Never Known But Always Told

Never known what passion is, But I've always attempted to find out. It's stayed an invisible luxury, Never relenting in being roundabout.

Passion remains a magic bliss, Which only in movies exists— That shared between six lips In an onscreen kiss.

Passion stays alongside all holidays In the ways it washed my brain. Just like Christmas—When it came, You knew that you were in for pain.

Never known, but always told— Passion is a gift forever delayed, With movements swift in change In order to shackle the sane.

## Never The Same, But As They Want

You and I are never going to be the same. People, like the seasons, change. Could it be that treason's fame Is through collective, not individual, gain? For if one fails to go with the grain, That one is hammered, driven insane, And all the world keeps moving, Without a blink, a say. Do you have yourself to give away, Or a benefit to fit someone else's game? If not, you are someone else's problem, And that is the way you stay.

#### New Gateway To Heaven

She spread out, Like if showing a valuable thing-Perhaps a new gateway to Heaven; Something soothing pain in the wreckage Of living, And all the boys Seem to have fun with her toys. What makes oneself worth giving? Why's a lifetime spent kneeling Before others wishes?

Pain can be glorious, Enjoyed at any rates, But so are Terrors In death games. They taunt her-Reminiscences Of past mistakes, Knowing full well Another is On the way.

Someone hush the noise, Someone halt the scene, Someone pause the destruction Of beauty. Love was never meant to be employed, Or fooled by any means, Yet only fools Surround me.

# Night Dip

I dipped into the river To see How many shivers Would free Me From all these Meanderings, From morbid Reality.

She dipped into the river At ease; The Sun did not live up To be Warmth in The breeze: Just a source Of gravity.

We dipped into the river To flee The cause of our break-up. Inevitably, We Seem floundering Into uncharted Territory.

#### No Me Dejes

No me dejes; Jamás ni me dejes. Has sido una fiebre Lenta, ardiente.

Desde que nací, Y ahora, Que mi vida muere, Te seguiré siempre Hasta la muerte.

No puedes; No lo entiendes. Esto se presiente— El mundo viene.

Estaré allí, Cuando el día llegue. Diré, "Ayer te vi— Sabía quién eres".

Cuando el mundo Rompa fuente, Y se bajen los muros En todo ambiente,

Será el lugar Para reclamar Que fiel fui Al verte llegar.

### Nothing But Someone

Ain't nothing but someone tryna make it. People I know are half of who they were, Still happy merely to be workin', Believing in soul friends just to forget us.

Ain't nothing but someone tryna make it Because it's painful seeing this for what this is. I don't blame them; Myself, I'm pretty crazy, But I ain't someone just tryna make it.

There's something wrong the way we are living; Suffering's everywhere, except in our kitchens. Everybody moves along, blaming the districts. I'll be damned if I grew up to lose me.

Rather keep poverty and my doggie, Shakur. Rather see my love every day, pure. Rather sink than swim among barracudas. Rather say I love you, go before it's not true.

Ain't nothing but someone tryna make it; I'll cherish you all, even in your deaths, Bury you in a sea of my own tears, Letting you go to do for which you're here.

### Nothing Good

Nothing good awaits us; We're born to learn Death's hovering. Thus, the seconds tick away And our hope goes with them, Vanishing. Hear pigs squealing, Nature's screams. Find out the nature In ice cream: How meat Produces meat For all to eat, Eventually. No, you'd also better roam, at least Three-hundred streets On those bare feet And see whom stops to see, If any at all act kindly. Then we'd know, Then we're free.

# Odor

I've said too much, Trusted in animals. When I'm one And can tell They're wild. My world Has no importance, Unless, here, Prey's around. I've been down Enough while To know how This comes about. But, still, I love, Ignoring the odor Of my cuts by now.

## On To The Next One

So many paths— No one right direction. Slowing at last, I've come to learn lessons.

Every single day that rises I fear is my end. Someone halt it all for a second; Let me catch my breath.

On to the next Stop— On to the next Block— On to the next Shop— Life doesn't stop.

I've lived in fantasies For way too long. This world's reality Is to never be loved.

We're slaves, ants to be Burnt up. Our graves are trashy things Not picked up.

And when the magnifying glass Does come, Then, you'll know everyone Moves on—

On to the next Stop— On to the next Block— On to the next ShopLife doesn't stop.

## Opportunities

We look beyond To a future life, With progress becomes A beautiful sight. Misery yearns for some relief Found in life's opportunities. Mysteries we seek, When all is bleak; Solutions to be The magical key To unlocking all that's not well-The promise in our wishing wells. Can you smell as you inhale Through the curtains veil? It's a tall-tale world-Disguising what we feel. Striving to find that one deal, Unknown behind the secret seal.

## Paradise

Paradise is not all it seems. There are limits in who breathes its breeze. These buildings don't belong here; A few tourists don't see our fear. The beach limited by who perceives Beyond the walls that block Natives From Palm Trees.

There's Anguish in the news due to all the blood spewed. Those with power languish for dollars by the hour. Young adults' lives are limited by the law's curfew. A young poet seeks to dominate a language's valor.

No hopes or aspirations for a nation without jobs. One that cuts funding to education for rich cowards. The Third-World pleads for a piece of food rations, Yet inequality threatens peace through provocation.

It is unknown to where the world shall head. History's library shows a pile of dead. The fact that humans permitted this dread Incites me to fear what lies ahead.

### **Perfect Consumption**

The time has come To be undone-Rejuvenated. Crime has spun One alone, Infatuated With rebirth; Rehearse The hurt First-Thirst's Curses Lurk Worse, Ever Evolving, Revolving, Controlling, Consuming Hearth.

See what I see through a flames' burst; Heed the smoke's billows out of frame— Nurse The rhythm to the pace at a place versed.

### **Pine-Winter**

I find myself lost without place to hide. The pine-winter frost fails to justify Where I'm at, What I've lacked, And those decisions that can't be taken back.

So, I stare and see the sound; I hear a bristle And turn around— Christmas trees glisten, As they're smitten With unrequited love Never to be found.

I'm left to ponder why, Oh why, I've never accustomed To the ground.

### Poison

Barrel bombs falling from the sky Chlorine rain, every other night Pouring down Our throats. We're so thirsty, but their water Has turned to poison; Ask my daughter- ask my mother. My wife lies lifeless, paralyzed: A look of love still amongst clouded eyes. All the way up, surely wondering, When we'll be Dancing with the Stars.

They do in other parts, Dancing on my life, Where the fun never ends, Truth's no one's aware. Battles over wealth, Health, they seem to And not to care, But they're still there, And there's not here. I appreciate the sentiment, Your demarcation from Russia, But you did this, too; You did this to us: One of one, our flesh and foam Will forever be yours, Even as the world knows Enough to yawn.

## **Pure Survival**

There's always a wall. We waver through the call — No way to escape this place At all. Our masses stand tall As they end up buckled. Who wants to win the game?

Shuffle.

Hand in hand at malls, Love shows it's dismal. Who's first to lose a glance? The balls We have till dawn Hide our lovely chaos, Because they're beautiful

Freedom.

Their orders far fall, The dresses come back on, And we're left to die Lost, For what was thought As remedial Turned out to be futile,

Insatiable.

## Queen Of Sensation

She walks in rain Domain to domain, Exciting veins While taking the reins.

There's no such thing As shame associated— She ignores the pain And gamely fakes it.

Her lips have fame; The ultimate curators Igniting flames, Turning liquid into vapor.

Men owe her favors— She's owed their lives For resisting the temptation Of telling their wives.

The Queen of Sensation, Title to which she abides, Describes the rhythm Of her sensual thighs.

This Queen isn't fooled; She knows it's a lie, But from her early youth, She was taught to satisfy.

# Questions

If I pray to you, Could it solve our mystery? Everyone says that soon You'll have my intrigue.

If I kneel, Would worlds wash away? Still, Isn't in your hands all pain?

How can you see, But not act, Not attack, Not do anything? Is it true What he said— Are we all abandoned

To commend In your hands? Are you our friend Or just the shepherd?

# Ríos

Por cada doctor, Abogado, locutor, Y maestro Que vive en nuestro Mundo, existen Miles de talentos Perdidos.

Aquellos a los cuales Estas localidades Fueron más amargas Que dulces: A cuenta larga, Frutas Llenas de frustré En lindo camino Del vivir.

Yo soy uno de esos, Perros sin hueso, Travieso atravesando Ríos al sumergirse. Y cuando regreso A aquel tierno Terreno, Del pasado, Parece todo Un chiste.

For every doctor, Lawyer, showman, And teacher Living in our World, there exist Thousands of lost Talents.

Those to which

These localities Have been more bitter Than sweet: In the long run, Fruits of frustration On the beautiful streets Of living.

I am one of those Dogs without a bone, Trickster traversing Rivers by submersion. And when I return To the past's Tender land, It all appears Pure diversion.

#### **Rocks In The River**

She hasn't been with us enough To behold the scope for submission, Working bodies to same old songs; Flesh is flesh, Like rocks in the river.

Her silver-linings are always sliding, Pushed to the side in times of hurry: Visuals keeping minds grinding, As she resists another flurry.

Everyone loves a puzzle to solve; We are our own enigma. Once done, does it merit going along A routine, now transfigured?

Never, never, For flesh is flesh, Like rocks in the river.

#### **Roses Without Thorns**

My apologies to you, Rose, For misunderstanding Where we were to go Or what would happen.

You had been plucked long ago, But desired to fasten Yourself on solid soil In the hopes of lasting.

My tears pour through For what you chose. A beauty for all to view Disrobed.

No thorns on their clothes; I am left to suppose That you did it to cope— Cloaked.

Now I understand that's not what you were to do, But you have to remember that I was young too; I had not a clue to foresee the brew— And save you.

I can imagine those men up in the stands, Passing wrapped roses from hand to hand, And you're left in a trance, once again, Until you wither and are forgotten.

#### Saw The Salmon

Saw the salmon swim up river: Their journey was over. Shivers seemed to strengthen That move forward. Perhaps senses were lowered As a last cushion to hold; Maybe, it was part of a flow Meant to go.

They were followed By death more than me. She glanced, admiringly, In tender glow. They released, were swallowed, And she pranced at ease. She knew what I know.

#### Self-Esteem

Here lies one door I should not have opened. Someone saw my riches, and they were stolen. Whatever may happen, this remains unspoken. No one must know what it is provoking. The battle may be found where the smoke is. A king cannot be crowned without blood to soak in. It is in that cup that he drinks to choke with All on his own without chance of forfeit. Catch this thief, I beseech you to! Look at her teeth, because she is see-through! Nightmares plague me under these blue moons, Reflecting brightly in rivers at noon.

Someone lit fire to my meadow in a morning without rain. I saw what could happen to my Kingdom and writhed with pain. Forget that thief—let her keep what she took! Why choke when pride and belief are mistook? Finding hearts drive many briefly insane— In fits of anger destroying all in range. Regrets I see that of history create books— A never-ending cycle of rivers and hooks.

### Self-Talk

There isn't anyone to talk to, Doesn't matter what's on my mind. I'd like to forget it for a time, you Would do just fine, caring a while.

Maybe it's not as serious as I make it, But my mind's still breaking. I've been locked up in this room for years, Humming tunes into my ceiling, Too much time wasted. Never had one friend be there. Every day's the same As the ones before it. I'm stuck in a time warp, 26 on 16. Really thought I'd be one, See sunlight reach me. Only moons meet here. Feel like a werewolf.

I know there won't be anyone, Playing pretend with myself.

There isn't anyone to talk to, Doesn't matter what's on my mind. I'd like to forget it for a time, you Would do just fine, caring a while.

# Setting The Fire

On this planet, more than twenty million starving, There is no such thing as time waiting. When you're gone, the whole world moves on. While dying, people admit 'They don't belong, ' Or somehow deserved it for being out too far-'The next city down the road can burn for all I care.' Everything outside of US turns out not to matter. We love consuming ourselves: Setting the fire, spark by spark, Our houses seemingly alive in the darkness.

# Sheep

I wake, tend to the sheep, Whom much too long Had wounds from flies, Even though the problem Stared right at me-The p- - - in my eyes. I hear a neighbor calling This pig somewhere 'round. There isn't mud far off to see; He mustn't work awhile. I travel back to my reality: A monitor escaping all. No one has responded, Even though it's been weeks-Are no friends in this world? But, still, I wonder, If like the sheep, No one sees how it hurts.

# Sin Salida

Ganando, Perdiendo, Me pierdo

En ella. Su veneno Me quema, Llena Mis venas. Concentro Todo Deseo Adentro: Lo que temo Y aquello Más dando cuentos.

Que la vida Siga Incalculable, Fría, Sin guía, No varía Los amantes En línea.

# Smooth Sails

Everyone's so busy with their lives, While mine goes down the wayside.\* Larkin said it's a moment till we all die; So far, waiting long ago arrived. We're on the same boats, different skies: \* The deck seems calm on the horizon, But in this dungeon, despite the window outside, I feel the ocean's tremble. Smooth sails don't equate to good sailors.\* There's nothing predictable hoping for our salvation. When you feel everything's within touch in the Matrix, \* No one ever notices the headgear, The questionable farming practices Making us lose more each year Till there's none left.

- \*1. Philip Larkin reference.
- \*2. Greek proverb reference.
- \*3. African proverb reference.
- \*4. Matrix film reference.

#### **Snow Mountain**

Up on this mountain, A clear fountain Distills water.

Up on this mountain, The snow covers My Asian cottage.

Hiding in it, Shuddering, At that image.

Who would've thought After all the scarce Populace pilgrimage

That I'd be visited By this distraught, Wretched demon.

Nightfall's on the horizon As I peak through blinds on This wagging figure.

Blowing the candles, My body trembles As a mirror.

To hear him calling In mocking fashion Is the ultimate trigger:

"You should have gone For that liaison; What a coward.

Spending time Writing poems To freeze fireTell me, is it not That she haunts In nightmares?

You should have sought To have popped Her idea.

Why bathe so just, In water distilled aloft, Only because it's clear?

It's much more fun To dip in mud At the rear."

Up on this mountain, He causes someone Cloaked to appear.

Up on this mountain, That waist is fastened, Only to reveal

That here— She is smiling In the worst of hauntings.

# Soul

Waking up in the same room, to my lazy routine, Years hiding from what's outside these brick walls, I try not to think of my enemies. If one enters, they do all. Many deaths lurk, clear and clean, As if only dirtying hands with my own, This room serves evidencing. How far I've abandoned hope. There's no one beyond imagination. If one soul could reach and hold me, Grasp my plight, let it soar, I'd pass by, you'd see the smile, See how great sufferers adore.

# Still Here

You look into my eyes, tell me you think I've given up. Something tells me nothing I do will be enough. My thoughts already are of those related to death. Can we hold on, love, before we forget? I don't feel that fire burning in the night again. Something about this long journey feels different. Long after we're gone, Earth will still be rotating. Can you tell if my soul's still here, or if isn't?

### Stop In Awe

Have you ever stopped in awe At just how lucky and disgraced We are? Seas of faces barge in bars, Selecting poison, coitus— Lives of choices Scarred.

Those alone are not the only tarred, Set alight, marred by the world. By far, accompanied folks disarm Themselves for being held in arms And told,

"That for all of life's lovely charms, You're the one worth knowing well. I'll be rough, even if it causes alarm— You're worth being damned to Hell."

We watch, stop, and search For life's frenzied farewell, Even though it's all dirt Surrounding an empty well.

# **Stopping Time**

A nostalgic joy comes over the thought Of his eyes over your body like I could have, If I had lived a little into the future; Our decades of fun could sweetly pass, Simply for us to discover ourselves: Every height to climb, Cave to dwell. All of those places we'd chill, Melt in vociferous rhythm. There's no stopping time, we must accept this fact, Yet our minds could choose to remain reluctant, Absorbed in the fantasy of friends, When at heart we're lovers. I'll always savor the moments, Remember the flavors, your potions, Imagine that curtain open, Just so I could close it.

#### Stormy Night

I'm by the sea Next to crying wind, Which ceased to be A peaceful breeze. Vacationers are running, And I begin To hear sirens Warning me. Yet I stay— I stay and wait To hear the ocean's Currents break. Yet I lie myself in place To await the end Of unruly fate.

The tsunami fails to come, And I'm undone By the extensive wait. I approach the ocean For its sake, And then I am awake.

### Subtle

Subtle changes in your profile, As if you're vying to push buttons In my world, seeking to defile Who we were, are now, files deleted, Right-clicked, emptied; You're still RPG-ing, at war With the heathens, But I bet you didn't count on my seeing His account closely; He's nearly three times your age, Sup wit' your circumstances? Three times bustin' the cradle, Gingerbread treats;

How sweet the sugar must pour From his White beard, Your very own Santa Claus. How sweet you seemed to be long before I observed How you get yours— Girl, get yours.(x2)

Do you think I care now What you choose, whom you do? You must be well aware how You murdered my innocent love. What would it do to spare guilt— Obviously still the same person Searching for a new gift, Each passing year. (x4)

# Suffer

Korn for the cobbler, brand new shoes to step On, and bubbles set up to pop on their own. Mattresses rule the world, lest we doze off, Programming golden shower nozzles (no soap, but foam) . Rue presidential suite services in our hotel, for the candy smells Only brings clientele back, four more. Maximize profits, if when we ask of it you know All we nosed, both by sheets and by ore. Trump U.S.? Suffer.

#### Taste A Little

She said she'd like to visit, Taste a little Of the local fixtures; I still remember How big that body was, While you loved watching My heart pump blood. Said there must be something Wrong with my camera. Huh? It's real, yeah, from there To your belly button; You make great descriptions.

She said she'd like to visit, Yet her eyes start moving, Searching for something else Near that room. Seeming pretty nervous, Should I ask where he is? Or let you disconnect, Run up out of here?

You're not the first one Who's glanced behind ya; She also told me to put it away Before someone found us. You all say you'd like to visit, Taste a little Of the local fixtures; I still remember.

# The Bat

The bat oversees the entire village, Blindly, wildly reaching for berries. Down below, by a couple's cottage, No one knows a legend's flying.

He had terrified many into pilgrimage— Made them stock their flock with crosses; Unknowingly rocked capes now vintage Years before this very hunt had happened.

This flight led to a colorful window-ledge, Where a young lady was spotted within, Staring, counting ticking seconds ahead Of their unfortunate passing, it seems.

The bat snuck past her now-busy head, Stretched out an arm, opened the fridge, Took some berries and even some bread, Fluffing pillows before she went to bed.

# The Bay

It should have been more. It should have been less. I feel so rotten about it.

This fragment of friendship— This montage of union— Extinguishes fumes of disillusion.

Is it possible to pave a way For two souls to exchange The happenings of night and day

Without solace in fray— Without envious decay Eroding its rocky base?

# The Bind Of Sleep

I bind with sleep in the depth of my mind, Where I find, and attempt to keep, treasures of mine: Time wasted, feelings faded, All the love, And all the hatred, Which rise and decline As chills down my spine.

I lie to myself awake, Open-mouthed and feeling For Feeling's sake. It sends me reeling Destroyed, irate With the coy dealings Of Fate.

I die, and die, until left with only life To face until truly late.

### The Downed Kite

Once upon a time, a man desired a woman. She was perfectly sized, with eyes blue and clear. What a pleasure for his mind to imagine Holding on to her beautiful behind so dear.

Days and nights passed gathering his might To tell that lovely sight what he felt. The man approached that woman flying a kite, Which right there and then fell.

Standing behind her, and speaking of love attained from afar, Her striking silence provoked pain in his heart At knowing not what she felt, or if she comprehended in part, How her beauty's spell refused to depart.

She turned around with a face so covered in scars That the man preferred blindness to witnessing more. He ran away, then drove full-speed in his car— Leaving with nothing to adore.

# The Heart

The Heart knows not of love, But of the blood within its pumps. No one quite knows love at blunt— Only the coveted Brain does.

The one that can be altered, Sheltered, and sponsored In order to function Towards love at once.

A Heart only suffers The rise in pressure Of every single measure Aimed at its stump.

For as we engage in pleasures Of trifling Earthly treasures, It inevitably ends with a lesson On someone's Broken Heart.

# The Hunter

There was something in the mountain's shadow which looked strange: A set of glistening teeth, fiercely pointing, as if to ascertain Whether I was weak, injured, or suffering from such malady Spelling imminent vulnerability, a prey, So far off from Africa. Near no big mammal land, I couldn't comprehend this, but I bared my own, Gnashing violently. There would be no other option Than to fight a way out, if attacked upon. Doors locked, the seconds ticked on, Clenched my hands, prepared for war; Lastly, I rolled the window down, Discovered my hunter was gone.

### The Last Bird Song

The last bird song heard In this forgotten flesh Is one of sorrow, worry, and regret; The whispers plea across the trees To say goodbye to me, Finally.

"We all fetch the same bets— Take part in the mesh to survive it. Although that can't be had, We are glad to continue the path Or find ways around it."

If what you assume is true, We are all inevitably subdued. I've queued life's clues And found beauty in blue. Let it be what it may.

"Choosing to be gone in May? Why not test fate by joining hate? "

I'll tell you why—I rather be late Than never arriving at a place.

Then, they just flew away.

### The Last Call

Ring, ring... Your family's calling It seems; One last battle, Using all of your strength, Is all that's needed For the pain to cease.

Or perhaps it's the other way Around, Yet you must react to that wretched Sound. Yes, I know graves find our caves Out, But there's so much to be done in fetched Hideouts.

Where's liberty by Vieques' sea? (You'd love to blow kisses at an evening breeze.) I bought you a lamb—if only you would see That life is changing for our family.

It all reaches us, but I believe There's no harm in procrastinating Our departure—What we could be Before the rug is swept under our feet.

# The Living

If there were words to say In the depths of despair, They'd be to live and greet Completely unawares Of impending defeats, Cheats, and care, Of each peak you'll bleed Internally with fears. For there is not much To care for here; We've all been launched, Grunted, into the stratosphere, And the only means to touch Down are clear: You must Be blunt enough to shear Through hair and skin, Vain and organ, push to brinks Nature's order, and therefore Sink as grounding blimps, Filling the grounds with stink Until it's over. But if fear is your ally, You may so choose to sit Out your flight, let it Crash in an empty alley, Or so land in the middle of night. Yet listen, again, You'd still be torn in Pieces by then, So is there real difference, My friend? Why let your cold stiffen Those limbs? Time to sleep! Let others Weep Living.

## The Lucky Plant

Did I ever rant about my Lucky Bamboo plant? Lucky, of course, because it needs no land. The world is scant, although a sycophant, And this beauty needs not a hand.

It's similar to me, I'd say—it can't tolerate the Sun, At least not through direct exposure any way done. Left to revel in dark, this plant discovers most fun Without the need of anyone.

That's not to say it doesn't suffer alone— The lack of nutrients does cause harm. But it's best to be short-lived than be sprung At the whims of everyone.

# The Nature To Actuality

Everything seems to fade away, My soul has stopped breathing. Endless buffets were days, Air the night kept beaming.

Next dawns had to be staunch. The future held a meaning: Alive to discover the bunch Of secrets TV would tease me.

When I stepped into reality, Humidity triggered heaving, The nature to actuality Is all but artistic-leaning.

### The Next Tribute

Tribes chanted of the heavens Kings called out to themselves Governments learned their lessons Religion rules us all What keeps even when we know There's no keeping up in the world Not to a Kardashian, not to anyone Unknowns don't rise, they fall Yet the masses trek forward Chasing down each other's survival Making of their kindred demons Celebrating the funeral Then, like before it began Everyone's gone And treasures, all the land Up for grabs from the dead's hands Await the next tribute

### The One Who Kept Me Company

I'm unable to enjoy a day as today. It's always been away; A failure to attain the void In the mind's pathways.

As Time passed, I became The same as those insane— Wishing that miracles would change Life's undoubtedly cruel games.

Happiness—we're both going down. It was Sadness who stayed When you were not around. I'm staring at these lights of the town, Wondering of those who played With you, as I drowned.

# The Sea And The Lighthouse

Moon, strengthen the tide. Seas of regret and pride— Faith, the lighthouse of my life, How do you shine so bright? I will never let sight of my ruby go— May be drowned if the false truth unfolds. But, even then, freezing in the ocean's cold, Memory will light our hearts as we together grow old.

# The Search

If I'm lost within my own soul, Which high command may rescue me? The worst silence is one found alone, Although surrounded by the ocean's breeze.

# The Sound Of Innocence Taken

The sound of innocence taken Blasts through the wind, Leaving an echoing silence, Devoid of anything. She stares him down, Her ground a pool now, But it was, indeed, Sink or swim. At this very moment, Realizing a packie Was not all at risk She was of losing. The stab wound's ooze Cannot just do; There's no excuse For this doing. There were always of Satan Talk and sayings, Pronouncements and slayings That kept protruding. But, eyes to the mirror in, There's no confusing, No alluding: She's him.

# The Spark Of Confusion

By the stairs, there's a fancy black lady, Shopping for straighteners and magazines. Her hair is dyed blonde, her eyes green, And she wears the whitest dress I've seen.

Her bible is of glamorous, golden colors, Bearing an elephant sticker on its cover. She caresses the hand of a cowboy lover And dismisses employees as too far under.

This driver's license she boasts for all present Classifies her ethnicity as a white lament. No wonder the census made no sense— What does it mean to be Puerto Rican?

## The Sun Rises Again

The Sun rises again, Shedding itself over hills. The clouds dissipate To clear its way Through. It runs the same trend— Spreading influential thrills Over mounds that steer the fate Of walking graves Anew.

I cannot stand the mystery Or the coincidence: Actions that bring misery Are of no consequence To the history Of existence.

We walk towards where? Is the finish line anywhere? Do we even care?

## The Travel Of Evil

Evil goes as evil knows, Victim imitating craving, Replicating tantrums shown In past events, only lately.

Evil roams as blood flows, Inheritance in the making, And people cast ivory stones To keep it obeying.

Evil's woes are never told: It's invulnerable to baiting. The filthy stash of skin and bones Weeps as it's arranged.

## The Wheelchair Spins Like Life

These wheels spin To stares engulfing grins. No one wants this thing; The blatant rush drives patience thin. She's a child, a baby—not worth discriminating. However, her similarity to adults is irritating Everyone and everything.

I sink to think of all that could have been: Our family achieving the American Dream. It's turned to regret, repenting all those things Which blurred right and wrong to this brink. It's all ready gone to nothing.

## The Work Ants

Sometimes, I feel like a toy. No, not a real boy. Joy comes through me Until I'm broken. Nothing is spoken. Riding in a convoy Filled with choice, We share the same void: Equal poise to avoid Life's true noise.

## **Tiger Eyes**

A deep stare into the tiger's eyes Reveals emeralds desired, yet once denied. The stage of unholy fire in winter nights That determines whom has or loses life.

She's a tiger due to the danger Associated with any loving behavior; For as much as humans adore saviors, Their truest love is that of hatred.

Keeping a tiger imprisoned should be a crime: Freedom is the purpose of nature's time. Feeling alive is the rarest kind Of emotion to possess and enshrine.

## To Be Beautiful Or Blind

If we were only beautiful, We'd own half the world. Funerals would be held, As time takes its toll. That'd be far gone, though, And, until we're swirled, A whole universe'll Watch us twirl.

We'd be the sight For every delight. Kings, queens, Wherever is light, And, at night, Succumb to spite— Devoured, as you would pie.

Somewhere, in that darkness, Though, We would know: Our likeness treats us so. And, in this time, Where nothing shines, We'd wish all, our kind, Were to be blind.

# To Love Each Other

Been a long time, but I still remember Who you were when I first met you, How we loved to love each otherspecial in normal moments. A couple coupling a couple memories, In case we needed them for our memoirs, Yet I never got the memos That it'd be over this early.

Why do we live as if we're done? I didn't sign up for death beds Or to be alone. You like riding horses, Even the injured ones, So 'giddyup.' (x2)

Why do we live as if we're done? I'll take you anywhere as long as When you're home, you're home. It's been feeling like when you're Here, you're Gone. Nowadays, I fear it all: The phone, Morning alarms, Late-night shows, All of the above-Your shadow.

## To My Sanctuary

You'd put me out, Pissed, prodded, Potty-mouthed, As if these topics Were blunted now: Twisted, too rhythmic, Untouted riles That writhe inwardly, Inhospitably wild. Lay on the laughter, Child. Search chapters of grammar, Dial changing numbers: Found meters meeting media's Cloud. Sunlight comes, and in then's while, I'll remain king of this house.

## **Took My Love**

Took my love through Hell; She soaked in the flames— Dispatch, she's ready. Flee on a plane. When this day comes, I'll lie awake, Staring at the ceiling, Dreaming of fate, As done those times I saw her with him— The perfect them, Their perfect win.

## Torture

Lessen the pain, lest we Miss the array. Listen, meaning Has no name. Lessons, teeming with Us in frays Relegate, delegate Fate.

Kindred, bloodied face, Stitch wounds, abate Punctures, pictured taste: Vengeance anomaly. Mercy, for me, pace! Think of spoils, waste: Family in crates— Tragedy soirée.

Stretched out late, We've seen a lake Not worth drowning.

# Trickle

Trickle, trickle in, Slither past my being. Whisper that thunder quick, As lightning, enlighten me. Cricket utmost privilege, Cicada the nights away. You like it when here, Love to leave to stay.

# Truth's Reveal

There's a truth if we so choose to reveal, but we're spending, Building walls, building fences, building buildings, big mansions, Plenty distraction for each sense, but our senses of sense are Moments away from attention. Calling you, seeing who, how you feel, Say you're feeling blessed up, even though There's no God nor heaven nor hell, you're Still a mom with no child, sore, collecting Pets like Pokemon, tourist in each nation's shores Once a year, your world tour. If we came through, would it ever have been real? Or would message after message lack understanding, comprehension? Slowly drifting apart, partisans, seeking victory at the expense Of even our own countries, just hoping we Don't join billions suffering?

# Turn On

Turn it on, can't stop myself, I'm lost in a different existence. Where a who's who loves, No one's an exception; It has everything our life's missing. The cam falls, around dawn, Back again where I want to be gone, Where awaiting death is virtually all Done while we're breathing.

#### Two To The Stomach

I took two to the stomach, They want me dead. Guess you should've done it, Instead of me. Now hide where that gun is. Don't you dread; It's best living without regrets.

Whole world is turning, Old friends don't care. You find yourself crooning At suicidal fairs. Now, tell me, if you dare, What makes up for constant fear?

When we are gone, Ease comes to bear. We sway, sway, Between all the tears, Coming to stay, right here, Past what for so long was near.

# U.S.A

The stars align to see Your triumph waving thin Among those backyard homes, Aware of nothing but Illusion, symbols, script Of what you wish yourselves To think, believe, adhere. When there is one thing clear Beyond the gate, green hills, The golf holes, speedboats, malls: Across the border, all See who you truly are— An eagle, not of freedom, Of fear.

## **Unbarreled Gun**

I, at once, lost, I, at once, won, I, at once, thought My peril gone. It was to be unarmed, Chained, besotted, Traveling alone, In an island, All departed. For the desert, I'd head, Leveling that dread, And find, no less, My good friend. Then was known, As an unbarreled gun, The useless run, The useless run.

# Unique

She's quite unique: Always heard, but never seen. They don't appreciate her beauty— Particular in the features they seek.

I questioned her last week— Asked about her sacrifice. She said they knew not what they possessed, But that the love of one would suffice.

One day, she will be admired, Delighted in love aloft. Then, they will know what was lost, As they exhibit a fire of desire, And that fire is put out by her frost.

How fitting would that be? As fitting as night after day. No more bidding for beauty. May her love never stray.

#### Unrelenting

I see something Unrelenting, a truth Of our existence Gone beyond All pretensions, So-called blessings.

We are lonely Slaves, Starving, Will do anything For greed, A taste of happy.

Oh my, granted, I didn't expect much, But, damn it, I've been taught that We weren't alone.

Have you ever stood Out a storm? Watched lightning, Rain Pass, that long? It goes like people, Sometimes fast, Sometimes slow, But always done, Leaving you soaked, Shocked, and Then some.

## **Unsatisfactory Dreaming**

She said she'd think of giving taste, Yet only found myself in dreams— Apparently too chaste a case To satisfy her being's needs.

She told this story angrily, Like I deserved definite blame For her imagination enduring Unpleasing, comic tease in shame.

My bad, yes ma'am, find fault in me, Since I was there to touch That precious vault incredibly— Not merely feel it mush.

You poms could view my best, Or close to it, I bet.

## Walkers

I'm out here by myself, Surrounded; Walkers sit and stare-I'm grounded. I took a flight to the west; It wasn't Any different from east coast Or an ocean. Tropical death Awaits me next, And I can't forget Who I was. They all say I'm mad, Can't remember their own words, Can't remember my name, Can't remember my love, But I do-I do. I know you Better than you do. You do me- do me, do. You did me, digged me, too. Now you've been gone, thinking You're new, That time cleans what comes through, But I'm stained and still ooze: A poltergeist, alive yet doomed.

## War

Before the war, our people got together Decided to choose split universes, Venturing off into unknowns: Sources, Space forces, recordings Of their own future visions. And so we killed each other, First in speeches, Then in meaning; Actions that caged humanity Beyond redemption. Our energy expanded, Consuming worthless planets, Until we saw God.

#### What May Be

Sometimes, I question myself; What if I were to have you And no one else? Would we hold true, Would those years on the shelf Turn your taste to sweet fruit To be drunk in gulps?

It is only when passion has knelt That I comprehend the ruse; You're an image, begging for forgiveness, Utterly confused, And that I may be to you— That I may be to you.

## What To Tell?

Don't say when I cannot prevail; Life's a grimly-told tale, And none of us it favors well. From the nothingness, which we hail, To having eyes open, wails, What more is here to tell?

## When I Held It

When I held it in front of me, Pointed at my belly, There were two pains: One would come, A searing drum, Which in turn Could alleviate The other I felt long before, Even then at that very moment, Continuing on forever, Unless I did something.

I heard her voice And chose to suffer.

#### Where I Met You

I was a fool, no doubt, to think That'd you'd be what I hoped. So long I've lived, my memories Should've provided reports On that kind of harmless beauty: Underneath, a leaking soul. I see what you wanted, truly, But I'd rather chill alone.

For I desired none of that, Content with your essence; A daily hi, pat on the back, So that we could pretend That this life is more than sin, More than what we want, lack, But again, not to be remiss, Where back did I meet you, then?

#### Windows Of The World

Our windows to the outside world See all there is to be-How many a man and woman fold Their souls into inhumanity. Greenest of greed-These lustful seas Have their waves Crashing in its wake; Those that claim To be holy, And even rows Sailing for the sake Of discovering wealth, Encountering pride, Immeasurable edits On nature's tide. The impossible beckons, For all that reckon We'll make it Through the night. They see his rising, Watch her winding, But they might as well Be clasped, eclipsed, Forgetful of that they'll Keep on shining, And our pleasures shall Be relaxed, dismissed.

## Wistful

We're numb to those scorned homes Within this dome that condones Their destruction. They're strung at the brink of forlorn zones; Writhing clones to diagnose Without action. We're occupied adorning pink floors, doors, and phones— Preferring to be alone and shown Wistful abstractions.

### Witches

You can feel eyes around here, Peeking through the bushes. Night doesn't seem dark, at all. Perhaps it's in the moonlight Or neighbor's window blinds, But a certain hatred falls. Of a kind slow burning, Like thunder through the skies, Rippling, power yearning Chills down one's spine. I cannot help but hearing Their cackling in my mind. As if, for a second turning Would bring abrupt end to life. Lest there be disappointment, Fear flies.

## Words

You owe me the words Simple, even though they hurt In some ways the pain's not so much Some way, I need to move forward

Just don't categorize me as another One Stand by the memories like they Happened You're my family that never Moves Eternally on my conscience Soon

#### Work Love

I was brought up on love, Something called "you'd find the one." Grew up, realized that's solved. You don't have to look, no. You don't have to look, man. The money's where it is now.

Decisions, what decisions? Sell it to the highest bidder!

It's about position and influence, Tuition, and vetting. It's not what you know, but whom you know. Your conscience? Forget it. Painful regrets aren't what we deal with, Just a salary lesson. Tell her we'll get the new dude fired, He'll never be ready.

But everyone likes how he looks, though. Enough to return the kindness. And if he's too proud to get low, Then he'll have to be blinded, Bounded, rounded out, Because we're not in business To be shut down.

I was brought up on love, man, And I've found the one.

# World Of Lies

Look outside, open your eyes, and see our world of lies, For we try to compromise, or else simply survive. There's no person caring, for what happens, anywhere. If it doesn't bother anyone, here, there's not a reason, There. They make not a sound, not a sound, As their tear drops fall. Not a mound of human corpses now, Visible.

The saddest part, in this Hell,

Eternally known by all,

Holds our breath, moves us less-

The abyss called ignorance.

## Wretched Wings

Weathered wings doing wretched things On my life, wringing everything. I hear him breathe, as a disease, Slowly consuming. I'm not he—no—I believe It's a fearful illusion. We were heading to the ceiling In fusion. The scream seized this body In fury of confusion. These toes curled, Lifting the power in our world To block the union.

I've never experienced such force— Such voice.

She said I was laughing, last night, To noise.

#### **Xxxtentacion**

We tend to go, us real ones, the souls. One way or another, they have us all. We're either drunk or bleeding on a floor, Both unexpected drowsiness, lessons No one ever learns. For we're unwanted, can't have its, Phantoms with no operas, no standing Ovations, patience, makers, vacations, Just alterations, adulterations, Negligence and everything else That makes of a person a demon In a world of reluctant heathens.

## Your Love

This night's a lonely one. I wonder if you're home alone, Or gone, with them, all your friends. Your love of pretend. They may never see what you are. Everyone just wants to grab it, girl, And let go, but you know, Behind the smoke, What they're in for.

I'd bet you'd be all over this, Eager to soak it and let the drip Flow. Meager alumnus always hits Bone. I got what you need to turn On. I guess we'll never know. Oh, isn't it tough? To know you must move Repeatedly forward, But your hearts all black Stone, And your highs loave you

And your highs leave you Lowered?