

Poetry Series

**S. I. Rednow**  
**- poems -**

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## S. I. Rednow(02/28/1957)

Most of my poetry is spiritual in nature. When I became a Christian I suddenly realized an ability to put in writing what I was feeling spiritually. I asked God to be my Editor In Chief by impressing it on my heart what to write, change, edit, delete, whatever. S. I. Rednow is my pen name because I was always known as a quick witted wise cracker with salty language to boot. S. I. Rednow stands for 'Somtimes I Wonder' (Rednow is 'wonder' backwards) . When I started writing spiritual poetry, I didn't think anyone that knew me would take it serious with MY name attached. Even now when old friends figure it out, they're surprised. They simply thought I was posting someone's poems that I liked. Eventually I started experimenting with different styles, cadence, and flow. My hope is in someday getting my poems published and that they can touch someone.

# Adrenaline

Oh the pleasure man tries to embrace  
Offers money to travel through space  
But rejects the grace that would open the place  
That would put us in front of Gods face

At the thought of adventure we cleave  
But with heaven we seem so naive  
No mind can conceive if we only believe  
There's no sadness or reason to grieve

It's the thrill that we all can afford  
There's a universe needing explored  
So lay down your sword because peace is restored  
We'll be living within one accord

S. I. Rednow

# Afraid To

You flee the ridge  
Afraid to dream  
Won't build the bridge  
To cross the stream

You doubt yourself  
Afraid to breach  
Where no one else  
Is meant to reach

You hide but yearn  
Afraid to sing  
We all could learn  
By what you bring

Your courage blind  
Afraid to stand  
You hope to find  
Somewhere to land

You fear too much  
Afraid to dare  
Faith cannot touch  
Who isn't there

S. I. Rednow

## After Three

Easter for some is their day for the Lord  
Gathered with time set aside  
Bedazzled in clothes they can barely afford  
It's vanity nourishing pride

Worshiping Jesus is more than one day  
And what of His life do we tell  
Events that we know and so therefore we say  
He is risen, alive, and well

As He was, He is, and He's still to come  
To take us away His reward  
He died to forgive you whatever was done  
Salvation He points you toward

He suffered three days, then sealed in a tomb  
Can He return like he said  
He appeared to disciples locked in a room  
He died but He didn't stay dead

S. I. Rednow

# All Over Again

You were the dart that was shot in my heart  
The woman that's meant for me  
You had me at hello, I'm one lucky fellow  
I knew it would end on one knee

It's always been said, we make our own bed  
And live with the choices we make  
In becoming my wife, you corrected my life  
We sleep so the sooner we wake

Only a mother shows love like no other  
Inner beauty by all accounts  
Your morals and humor started the rumor  
Of character in vast amounts

Like aging of wine, getting better with time  
No matter how long that it's been  
I believed from the start, 'til death do us part  
So I'd do it all over again

S. I. Rednow

# Ambivalent Thanks

We made Christmas and Easter marketing days  
Now Thanksgiving too because these are our ways  
The day after Thanksgiving we pray even more  
We pray we're up front when they open the store

There's a Spirit of Christmas but when does it start  
This Black Friday term seems to reference the heart  
I prosper by chance as some people insist  
Though a god of coincidence doesn't exist

We claim that we're thankful but we don't say to who  
Meaning thankful I'm lucky I have more than you  
Giving thanks to the Lord may to some appear odd  
But this day was meant as a thank you to God

S. I. Rednow

# An Identical Difference

If saving is to spending  
What working is to playing  
Then selfish is to lending  
What violence is to praying

If shrinking is to growing  
What leaving is to knocking  
Then hiding is to showing  
What bashful is to talking

If paying is to stealing  
What loving is to hating  
Then sickness is to healing  
What marriage is to dating

If wanting is to needing  
What laughing is to crying  
Then hunger is to feeding  
What living is to dying

S. I. Rednow



# As For Me And Mine

I thank You for family that sought You  
And thank You for family with grit  
Thank You for my family that found You  
And I'm praying for those that quit

I thank You for family that live You  
And thank you for family that try  
Thank You for family that know You  
And I'm praying for those that deny

I thank You for family that trust You  
And thank You for family that don't  
Thank you for my family that praise You  
And I'm praying for those that won't

S. I. Rednow

# Bitter Slave

When families fight and will not speak  
Or lasting peace they will not seek  
Upon a death they'll fight no more  
And then they'll ask what was it for  
More bitterness must not be sown  
It serves no good as time has shown  
To mend your soul and bind the beast  
Bless the one who earns it least  
Forgiveness then becomes the host  
For those you know that need it most  
Set free the slave if you so choose  
So angry chains you start to lose

S. I. Rednow

# Broken Egg

So many see God as this tough egg to crack  
Judgment and anger and things such as that  
But a Lord striking vengeance just isn't true  
Now who spoke this message of fear into you  
Is someone so lost that they cannot be found  
This deadly perception is keeping you down  
A simple &quot;I'm Sorry&quot; cracks open the shell  
Then heartfelt repentance will start to compel  
The egg oozing forgiveness just as it broke  
Releasing the grace that's encased in the yoke  
As God sets you free from your cycle of sin  
He quickly forgets of the sin you were in  
It cannot be earned and it's needless to beg  
You simply must ask to unscramble this egg

S. I. Rednow

# Bully For You

You bullied me, heckled me, misused my name  
Made fun of me, lied on me, put me to shame

Slandering, abusive, and often profane  
What you thought was funny was silly and lame

I never got bitter or joined in your game  
I never did anything fanning the flame

You spreading the rumors in hopes to defame  
With prejudice, malice, and all without aim

Not judging you, hating you, casting no blame  
If seeking revenge then I'm just as inane

I'm simply confessing how I overcame  
I saw how your father would do you the same

S. I. Rednow

## By Its Cover

It's funny how some, were the best that could be  
But were harboring secrets, we just couldn't see  
And then there are some, seems no good within  
They prove to be better, than anyone's been  
There's no one so bad, that no love can reside  
And no one so righteous, all laws they abide  
So whichever extreme, we think we are seen  
If truth be known, we're somewhere between

S. I. Rednow

# Chance By God

Who created all creation, with only voice commands  
Did Chance count the stars, and blow them from His hands  
Who said unto the mountain, this high and then no more  
Did Chance fill up the ocean, say where to etch the shore  
Who painted the heavens blue, then added in the cloud  
Did Chance make the lightning, or thunder be so loud  
Who gave you all the smells, that follow every rain  
Did Chance give you hope, or take away your pain  
Who sent the summer breeze, makes every flower dance  
Did Chance pick the creature, what flies or what will prance  
Who sends the winter snow, on a cold chilly day  
Did Chance make the sun to shine, to melt it all away  
Who put you on this earth, so many now in number  
Did Chance give you food to eat, sparing you from hunger  
Who blessed the happy couple, and sent them both a child  
Did Chance give the gender, excited kid or mild  
Who then is this Chance, what's he done this season  
Did Chance get all the credit, when surely I'm the reason

S. I. Rednow

# Color Me Bad

When I seek Gods kingdom in all that I do  
The Comforter comes to carry me through

And I'll give no excuse for conviction of heart  
If wrong in the end it was wrong from the start

Can punishment hinge on the color of skin  
With a process so flawed then how can I win

Our scales of wickedness starting to rust  
So weighted with bias, forever unjust

When money determines the counsel received  
The systems perverted, the verdict deceived

Travesty born to bring injustice to light  
With God on my side I continue the fight

The scales of God justice are polished with truth  
His judgment is fair and His Son is our proof

S. I. Rednow

# Consider The Birds

Though long before my time of birth  
My needs we're known just for this day  
That's odd  
Today indeed confirms my worth  
Debts were settled I couldn't pay  
That's God

S. I. Rednow



# Finals

Each day is like school and this life an exam  
All of us given admission  
God so loved the world that He gave us His lamb  
Lord Jesus covered tuition

While eating, drinking, and giving in marriage  
Like in Noah's day long before  
We mock the Lord and the Bible disparage  
Competing for who can sin more

Some promise to change but then never do start  
We trample God's grace in the ground  
There's no make up test if there's no change of heart  
When commanded with "all pencils down";

S. I. Rednow

## Fine Counsel

Two can be one  
But both will fall  
If one gives some  
And one gives all

Respect is key  
Let love be bold  
You before me  
The bond will hold

Let no one pray  
Would if I could  
Your faith today  
Turns bad to good

Though life's not fair  
Time can't be late  
Your pain won't care  
And death won't wait

S. I. Rednow

# Five Uncommon Senses

I listened for smells of dew  
Nourishing grasses that grew  
With barefoot strolls in the yard  
Fragrance to lower my guard

And smell the taste of peaches  
A fuzziness like speeches  
To lie with a spirit mean  
Your folly with soon convene

Taste the feel of bitterness  
Exiles you in wilderness  
Give forgiveness its debut  
Find peace in this power true

You feel the sight of the poor  
Ironic in its grandeur  
Can compassion hide their fears  
The answer revealed in tears

So see the sound of breezes  
The pile of leaves it tease's  
Views of Gods glory abound  
Nature declares it profound

S. I. Rednow

# Forget Alzheimer's

Good morning my dear, now please don't despair  
I've kept to myself something now I must share

Cursed with this issue completing a thought  
This chasm between what I wanted and got

All of my yesterdays will soon disappear  
And image of family has faded each year

History the armor that's shielding your name  
Yet somewhere within a fire burning the same

Remember the joy, forgive me this sorrow  
I love you today but who knows tomorrow

After I'm gone I hope to leave you with pride  
To sense that I'm near when I come along side

I want to express to you thoughts in my head  
Before I'm repeating things already said

Good morning my dear, now please don't despair  
I've kept to myself something now I must share

S. I. Rednow

# God Alive

Some worship wood, some worship stone  
No trust in the God that gives  
They put faith in a god made by a man  
Christians serve the God that lives

We have a God you can't put on a shelf  
A God made by no man's hands  
Some have a god that if it fell to the floor  
It stays wherever it lands

We don't pray to Mary or confess to flesh  
Our prayers go straight to the Lord  
This pleases the Lord who's a jealous God  
And keeps us in one accord

Though He was and He is and He's still to come  
We're sheep that desire to be led  
If you paid for your god, seek a return  
Your receipt will prove he was dead

S. I. Rednow

# Heaven On Earth

The beginning gave land on the earth  
But which day Colorado  
An awesome child did the Rockies birth  
Expanse with such bravado

Hiking or skiing a mountain high  
Anticipating the crest  
Majestic peaks pressed into the sky  
Views of a valley at rest

Many a creature living below  
What a heaven on earthly scent  
'Til heaven comes down, where can I go  
Colorado is where I'm meant

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# Heroes

Lord protect policemen, bad people they may seek  
And God bless the nurses, that tend to those too weak  
Give protection for the soldiers, that bravely go to fight  
Let angels crew with pilots, that carry us in flight  
Honor's not reserved to them, who wear a uniform  
For image sake they dress this way, don't let it misinform  
The single parent toils alone, heroic task indeed  
And what about the neighbor, that helps a friend in need  
Give the lonely one kind word, from them you get a smile  
Compassion that they rarely get, it's often been a while  
Regardless of the day you had, your kids ask you to play  
Because you're the only hero, they've waited for all day

S. I. Rednow

# Imaginary Friend

Since writing is so therapeutic to me  
There's plenty to get off my chest  
Unless I make sense of this thing that I see  
It may put my writing to rest

How many parents are ignoring a child  
Won't set aside time for an heir  
So why the surprise when the children go wild  
If nobody shows that they care

It does little good bringing paper to pen  
If writer and reader are one  
While you say that you'll play you never say when  
It's always 'just wait 'til I'm done'

Excuse is the compass pointing day to night  
For a family losing its way  
I said without change I would no longer write  
But whoever means what they say

S. I. Rednow



# Imagine

Oh the pleasure man tries to embrace  
Offers money to travel through space  
But rejects the grace that would open the place  
That would put us in front of Gods face

At the thought of adventure we cleave  
But with heaven we seem so naive  
No mind can conceive if we only believe  
There's no sadness or reason to grieve

It's the thrill that we all can afford  
There's a universe needing explored  
So lay down your sword because peace is restored  
We'll be living within one accord

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# In The Beginning

Can evolution be promoting a lie  
God gave us us the how and the why  
A question debates how we still have the apes  
If evolved why didn't they die

Even the heavens declare of His glory  
Despite some bones in a quarry  
There's been a delusion sent for confusion  
All to discredit His story

And when did evolving become such a curse  
We aren't getting better but worse  
With evil and war so much more than before  
Compassion is what we lost first

So if evolution is simply a spin  
How did seas design us with limb  
If you believe and swear of mass always there  
Meet the God that has always been

S. I. Rednow

# Invisible Walls

To walk away hurts, even cuts to the heart  
Gloom hung like a fog after dawn  
Our invisible walls did tear us apart  
When we're not being heard we move on

It's clear to me now how it's always unfair  
When feelings are kept in a vault  
Compelled to be cold and pretend not to care  
While we're looking for where to put fault

Though likely I paid for what others did you  
There was reason to give it my best  
But we no longer talked, what else could we do  
It was time that we put it to rest

We were water and oil, seems we just wouldn't mix  
So what did our time really mean  
Your friendship is vital, I do much to fix  
It's important that I can come clean

S. I. Rednow

# Just Trippin

All these cops without cause keep bustin' my jaws  
Whenever I'm showing my butt  
Does it break any laws displaying my draws  
Then stop me from doing my strut

You think this is fun but I'm not even done  
Cops look for me all over town  
They're quick with a stun so I normally run  
It's tough with your pants falling down

Seems this started in jail as a way you can tell  
A manhood may be unstable  
You're trapped in a cell with a dude raising hell  
Who's ready, willing, and able

By sagging this way doesn't mean that I'm gay  
And I don't have a load in my pants  
But if cops stay away, then starting today  
Suspenders leave nothing to chance

S. I. Rednow

# Lest We Forget

There's room at the table, a loved one once sat  
A veteran who served a nation that called  
The ultimate sacrifice, what's greater than that  
Turning back evil where tyranny was stalled

We all owe a debt to these soldiers so proud  
They fought for ideals that were pushed to the edge  
Their own dreams aside, they conduct what they vowed  
One nation under God, as said in our pledge

Some served but were spared and continued with life  
But took the same risk for this USA way  
Not just husbands returned, but often a wife  
Remembering the debt a comrade did pay

To not defend God's gift with all of my might  
He may give it to one more grateful than me  
When faced with the question, to fight or take flight  
I always remember this freedom's not free

S. I. Rednow

# Life Rocks

I'm dancing with life and I'm having some fun  
When cancer decides to cut in  
Life gives up the floor but isn't quite done  
It's wearing my jacket and pin

Forced to dance until weak, I really did tire  
Being twirled with hair falling out  
It's dancing with me as though feet set afire  
This cancer is trouble no doubt

There came a commotion towards the front door  
We all turned to see who was there  
This man waltzes in and took over the floor  
Took cancer and gave it a dare

You'll pay if you stay unless greater than me  
So cancer slipped out like a mouse  
But looked over its shoulder only to see  
Me and Jesus rockin the house

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# Lipstick On A Pig

Republican or Democrat  
How's a person to decide  
And after my selection  
Which one leaves me with some pride  
My confidence now laggin  
Seems like neither keeps their word  
We're just hitchin up our wagon  
To the best end of a turd

S. I. Rednow

# Maestro

If Jesus was the melody  
Then Apostle Paul gave harmony  
It's God's desire, we're a righteous choir  
Performing like a symphony

S. I. Rednow



# Max Friends

Its chilly outdoors  
The kids wanting s'mores  
I'm so restless  
I don't take the car

I jog to the mall  
In hoodie and all  
While a cruiser  
Moves in from afar

It follows so long  
I fear something's wrong  
Then it blocks me  
I can't even walk

This cop yelling freeze  
And get on your knees  
Since you're running  
We just need to talk

He fears my attack  
I'm cuffed in the back  
Then he tests me  
With wheres and what fors

'Just out getting snacks  
For my Nate and your Max  
I'm your neighbor  
Just over two doors'

S. I. Rednow

# My Bad

Sometimes I choose a given word  
It's not what's said but how it's heard  
For those who know the way I am  
With two more words they understand

S. I. Rednow

# Neighbors All

To be marked by God with His seal  
Repentance is part of the deal  
Heaven is true so what will you do  
The eternity promised is real

There's no wish to condemn but forgive  
He wants to improve where you live  
There's judgment to come but it won't be for some  
As declared by Him pierced in the rib

First a rapture of ancestors' bones  
Then a glorious parade of homes  
This long celebration won't temper elation  
Where no Christians are threatened by stones

Make tomorrow your destiny new  
There's an address in heaven when through  
With earth recreated and evil negated  
I hope that my neighbor is you

S. I. Rednow

# No Excuses

If you're not being heard, shout out  
When you hate where you live, move out  
You see what life brings, you may want better things  
So when needing a hand, reach out

If you're under a cloud, step out  
When you're sick of the rain, dry out  
There comes a new dawn, if you want to move on  
When sin beckons you in, keep out

If your friends aren't your friends, trade out  
When some offer their help, watch out  
Look in the mirror, you'll see yourself clearer  
When you're happy with life, sing out

When you hate what you hear, tune out  
If you want in the game, try out  
When troubled within, or there's no way to win  
To the Lord up above, cry out

S. I. Rednow

# Nothing Against Santa

The meaning of Christmas suffers forever  
With 'Happy Holidays' no spirit comes forth  
Passing out gifts when we all come together  
God isn't in boots and He's not from the north

But God gave a gift that has given us much  
That 1st Christmas day when born in a manger  
In accepting His gift we're branded as such  
Recognizing now where once was a stranger

Can this Spirit of Christmas last us all year  
With O Holy Night in our hearts from above  
Principles in life we should hold to be dear  
Why can't all the religions practice such love

Nothing against Santa as its fun for the child  
Just simply explain so true meaning they see  
As they tear into gifts and begin to run wild  
The Spirit of Christmas isn't under the tree

S. I. Rednow

# One Nation Above God

We want God out of Christmas, out of research  
And can share Him at work no more  
Then look for a way we can ban Him from church  
We see what a hand basket's for

We banned Him from public and all that pertains  
And took away all of His tools  
Then blame Him for chaos and all of our pains  
We won't let Him into our schools

We mock His creation, glorify science  
And whispering things that He hears  
Then demand a sign, we curse in defiance  
We beg Him when tragedy nears

We stifle His Word and all He's about  
And voted and longed for these days  
Then pray for the nation that wanted Him out  
We think we can have it both ways

S. I. Rednow

# Passing Shadow

Engravers carve a date of birth  
Including when we leave this earth  
So much the wiser had I seen  
How little time there is between

S. I. Rednow

# Pearls Before Swine

When will you learn there are those who will spurn  
Everything righteous you do  
And with hardness of heart their work is to part  
The bond I've created with you

They see you as meek, then perceive it as weak  
Unaware of your strength within  
To argue with them and the time that you spend  
Won't turn them away from their sin

But I share the news there are some I will choose  
Just pray you are spiritually wise  
Yet don't be dismayed when despite that you prayed  
What I offer so many despise

Regardless their plight they want only to fight  
To spar with believers they meet  
I tell you once more to just turn from their door  
While shaking the dust from your feet

S. I. Rednow



# Political Party (Pooper)

I'm called a political whiz  
I 'promise the world' then I fizz  
I cheat on my spouse and I lie like a louse  
What a remarkable biz

Now I'm taking it on the chin  
And even embarrassed my kin  
Though others were burned, I still never learned  
I did it all over again

It's rumored I haven't come clean  
That my greed's the worst ever seen  
To disclose all I owe, I lose half my dough  
Hey, what does unscrupulous mean

I said I would clean up our hoods  
So trust I'll deliver the goods  
Would I give you my word, then flip you the bird  
Are the bears still pooping in woods

Opponents are starting to bawl  
I'm running again in the fall  
We're concealing my acts, distorting the facts  
You've seen some of my tricks but not all

S. I. Rednow

# Prayer Grease

Since the devil keeps coming and seldom will cease  
Stay devoted to God as the Lord is our peace  
Satan's the friction when our prayers decrease  
So pray even more because prayer is our grease

S. I. Rednow

# Resolute Me

Another year down and another year up  
The Lord is still blessing me more  
Fulfillment and joy overflowing the cup  
The New Year has something in store

It's been a tough year, I was under attack  
My faith taught me not to fear it  
'Cause all that I have is still more than I lack  
Grown in the fruit of the spirit

I hope I'm so blessed I can have an effect  
May have neighbors troubled at home  
Like family in need I can write them a check  
And know that it wasn't a loan

To whom much is given then much is required  
My hope is in passing it on  
This heart's being molded to what God desired  
Now how can the New Year go wrong

S. I. Rednow

# Righteous Sin

Jesus bullied his wife and He cheated  
He did drugs and it kept Him defeated  
Was drunk all the time and it wasn't just wine  
Then most of these things He repeated

He was a thief and a liar with flaws  
He was immoral and disobeyed laws  
Like a true atheist, no God can exist  
And yet all of this done for a cause

He's the Lamb that was sent for the lost  
Our forgiveness was bought at a cost  
To reject any sins then none of us wins  
So He became every sin at the cross

S. I. Rednow

# Roger That

If you're told that you can't, ask why  
And if told that you won't, you try  
When I doubted myself, I gave it my all  
So just look at me now, I fly

When it's hot on the ground, you fry  
If you want to cool off, go high  
And if weather is bad, then go somewhere else  
Planes always do better when dry

If it's light with power, it's spry  
If you fly too heavy, you die  
When trying to land, strong wind from the side  
This isn't the time to be shy

If you find the right plane, you buy  
So where do you take it, the sky  
You soar above Earth, thank God for the gift  
Remember those lost and you cry

S. I. Rednow

# Roomie

Was a knock at the door, I opened my heart  
It's the Lord so I asked Him in  
But He wouldn't come in, He said look around  
Seems everything's covered in sin

The devil's my roomie, that's why it looks bad  
Not allowed to bring my own stuff  
God said I can remodel, give Me a chance  
'Cause your roomie isn't that tough

The motif was anger, the color was fear  
A décor that made it look dark  
I said he won't allow things he didn't approve  
God said fine, I know where to start

I'll repaint the anger, I'll take out the fear  
And this carpet so stained with doubt  
I said thank you for that, I almost forgot  
Those were tears, they wouldn't come out

There's a bookcase of lies, holds nothing that's true  
I'll need help to carry each shelf  
It's old and it's heavy, it's loaded with sin  
Satan loved it, built it himself

If not for You Lord I'd be stuck in this place  
Frustration I just couldn't quell  
It appears all the things to make my life easy  
They were leading me straight into hell

God disposed of the envy, tossed out the greed  
We each took an end of the hate  
Now there's light in my heart, my future looks bright  
No carpets left needing to shake

So now that we're finished, there's no more to do  
The Lord threw out everything marred  
When Satan came home now what did he find

His possessions all over the yard

I asked God to move in and gave Him a key

Thankful my heart was convicted

Now locks have been changed and the devil left mad

This wasn't his first time evicted

S. I. Rednow

# Root Of All Evil

Not all TV pastors are led by the heart  
Knowing people and money are easy to part  
So blessed by the Lord that their greed became lust  
They're wolves on the hunt so they say what they must

Fleeing the sheep to maintain how they live  
They're marketing God so new converts will give  
Already in mansions yet want even more  
Come walking on water but swim back to shore

If all that you have won't provide for your need  
They say give what you've got, we'll call it your seed  
Peddling guilt with no conviction or shame  
Not following God but just using His name

Raising our hope with prosperity the draw  
We're landed like fish with a hook in our jaw  
Ignoring the words that the bible did say  
We'll all give account before God judgment day

S. I. Rednow



# Save My Place

Whether flesh of my flesh, and bone of my bone  
Or simply my friend, God's called you on home  
Your companionship gone, absent this season  
Not sure why you're called, but God has a reason  
The Lord made a promise, and He is no liar  
I'll see you in heaven, cause that's my desire  
We'll greet one another, and soon we will see  
How long can we laugh, how long will it be  
To hug and to hold you, and hug you again  
If this goes on forever, it's only began  
Until then remember, we'll meet again soon  
Won't be any sorrow, no sadness or gloom  
You made us so proud, you gave us your best  
And now with the Lord, for passing this test  
Rewarded a body, glorified in grace  
I ask you a favor, just save me a place

S. I. Rednow

# Say Again

Men often listen like a rock skips a lake  
Seems only we hear where the rock leaves a wake  
When we vow to do better and listen much more  
Really we're praying for the wake to make shore

S. I. Rednow

# Something In The Air

You Christians, you believe in a God, but can't see God  
You say you know there's a God, cause you feel God  
You want Him always around, you say you need Him like food  
See how long can you go without God

You atheists, you believe that there's air, but can't see air  
You say you know that there's air, cause you feel air  
You want it always around, you say you need it like food  
See how long you can go without air

S. I. Rednow

# Straight The Gate

You're a good person, a ticket to heaven  
The bible disputes this belief  
Days of creation completed in seven  
To you evolution is chief

You're a good person, you believe this will save  
Hearts on this topic seem frozen  
There is to be judgment for how we behave  
Why many are called, not chosen

You're a good person, but the bible you shelf  
Applauding yourself with ovation  
You're your own idol, only listen to self  
A substitute plan of salvation

You're a good person, yet resent those that preach  
Then attempt to justify sin  
With conviction in hand you look for a breach  
In search of another way in

You're a good person, or so you've been told  
But scripture will surely rebuff  
Salvation is key so I have to be bold  
Our goodness just isn't enough

You're a good person, but then Jesus was too  
So tally the good that you've done  
God turned from His Lamb so why wouldn't He you  
The only way in is His Son

S. I. Rednow

# Strong Weakness

Awards

Work paid off

I'm good

Now

New goals

Ban awards?

Low self-esteem?

In nature

Only the strong survive

School

Get an A,

I'm good

An F, I'm bad

B, not as good

D, not as bad

Lacking effort

Cue participation award

Now I can pass too

S. I. Rednow

# Sum Of Some

To some it's wealth and wealth alone  
Some majesty but minus throne  
It's all their stuff how some are known  
This sense of worth is all some own

Who cares the status some may bring  
Who gives a rip some diamond ring  
Some have children that view us king  
This throne to some means everything

S. I. Rednow

# Ten-Hut

Who are the ones that will fight for your right  
Who answers a country in need  
Who are the ones that keep watch overnight  
Who are these soldiers indeed

Who jumps at the chance to defend how we live  
Who's first to charge into the fray  
Who gives their all until no more to give  
Who's risking their life for a way

Who cares for those that return without limb  
Who wins when the budget reverts  
Who's bills go unpaid when benefits trim  
Who's getting what Congress diverts

Who marches on when it could be the end  
Who's families sustain them with love  
Who throws themselves in the way for a friend  
Who's God saw it all from above

S. I. Rednow

# The Guardian

There's no guarantee of tomorrow in place  
Regardless how much we endeavor  
We wake up each day by His patience and grace  
We're one breath away from forever

It's beyond our control when called to appear  
If today and your life part ways  
But when prayers rise into the atmosphere  
There are angels assigned to your days

S. I. Rednow



# They Say

Surely I passed you but I know not who  
Opposites attract or so 'they' say  
A negative me for a positive you  
Will make pleasant the gloomiest day

'They' say shorten the span between east and west  
While searching a like-minded spirit  
So shoot up a flare or describe how you're dressed  
I'm naïve and often don't get it

'They' say study this math where two can be one  
Advantage of sorrows divided  
Celebrate each year the first day we begun  
Two fools so happily misguided

So who are these experts with so much advice  
Don't 'they' too push divorces so high  
This isn't much different than rolling the dice  
I'm beginning to think 'they' just lie

This note in a bottle I now set adrift  
Desperation replacing desire  
I'm holding out hope that the seas send a gift  
'They' say you're out there, simply inquire

'They' speak the importance of finding first love  
The reflection that two shadows cast  
If love is the end-all 'they' often speak of  
How more precious if you be my last

S. I. Rednow

## Well Read

Since writing takes a certain art  
Then poetry sells it to the heart

Good writing has a point to serve  
A poem directs it to the nerve

If written waves attack the beach  
Poetry calms the tide to teach

Poetic manner so profound  
The 3 Rs' equal pound for pound

The mind is free when in a book  
So find a poem and bite the hook

S. I. Rednow