

# *Feet upon the Street*

*and other poems*

*Maya Etkin*

*Dedicated  
to all who serve God.*

© by Maya Etkin, 2005

Published by the author:  
Maya Etkin, B.A., M.Ed.,  
Clinical Member (retired)., American and Ontario Associations  
for Marriage and Family Therapy  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada.  
betkin@rogers.com

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Feet Upon the Street. . . . .	1
Thy Brother's Blood . . . . .	4
<i>Of The Sin of Pride . . . . .</i>	6
From Psalm 24 . . . . .	7
The Parable of the Shepherd . . . . .	8
<i>Of the Sin of Avarice and the Virtue of Sharing . . . . .</i>	11
Cries of Despair. . . . .	12
The Money Tree. . . . .	14
Tragic Fate. . . . .	16
Farewell to a Mother . . . . .	17
To Laurie. . . . .	18
Going Home . . . . .	18
The Highest Power . . . . .	19
Trust Betrayed. . . . .	22
Forgiveness. . . . .	23
A Lady Rare. . . . .	24
The Humble One. . . . .	25
A Prayer . . . . .	27
Lights of Love . . . . .	28
Soulmates . . . . .	29
Inspiration . . . . .	30
My Lake . . . . .	31
Paths to Light. . . . .	33

## ***FEET UPON THE STREET***

Like a mighty river's flow  
in rosy light of evening's glow,  
move myriad feet  
upon the city street.

She – with blazing red, long wavy hair,  
her eyes of blue, pools of despair.  
She's tiny, crippled, four feet high,  
her body her does crucify.  
With pain she moves her twisted spine,  
small outstretched hand her thin lifeline.  
Limping feet upon the street.

She – hips that sway, clothes that display,  
darting eyes her needs convey  
as she looks for who will pay.  
She was a child but yesterday;  
tragically she's gone astray,  
in heartbreak street she lives today.  
Enticing feet upon the street.

She – body lithe and slim, so swift,  
her chestnut hair the wind does lift.  
With chin held high, and sparkling eye  
she moves with style, mile on mile.  
Vibrant, lively, radiant girl  
has her potential to unfurl.  
Running feet upon the street.

Feet Upon the Street

He – with confidence, he leads the tide,  
achieving much, he's filled with pride.  
His head held high, with steady eye  
success he does exemplify.  
He is from another land,  
important that all understand.  
Ambitious feet upon the street.

She – expensive clothes and well-coiffed hair,  
married to a millionaire.  
Life is easy, cash to spare.  
Her children in a nanny's care,  
does she think how well they fare?  
Thoughts of others very rare.  
Stylish feet upon the street.

She – stooped little lady on a cane,  
anxious that it should not rain.  
Wrinkled face and greying hair,  
squinting eyes age did impair,  
hands that shake and legs that ache,  
worried life will her forsake.  
Halting feet upon the street.

He – rumpled clothes and toothless gums,  
one of many stumblebums,  
to life's misfortunes he succumbs,  
lives on other people's crumbs.  
He holds out a rumpled hat  
while sprawled upon a dirty mat.  
Stumbling feet upon the street.

Feet Upon the Street

She –hair all mussed, sad eyes glazed,  
her infant clutched, her mind drug- dazed.

Past decisions so unwise,  
now mind and body agonize.  
She's heading for a young demise-  
grant her mercy- don't despise.  
Dragging feet upon the street.

He – compassion flowing from black eyes,  
comforts, gentle and so wise.

He helps many to survive ,  
from despair their hopes revive.  
With loving heart he serves his Lord,  
God will help him and reward.  
Pious feet upon the street.

They – moms and dads with kids in tow,

little faces all aglow,  
as children skip and run and play,  
having fun at end of day.

Teeners cluster, heads held close,  
secrets shared do them engross.

Family feet upon the street.

No matter what the race or hue,  
whether Christian, Muslim, Jew,  
whether Buddhist or Hindu,  
whether citizen or new,  
fat or thin, or short or tall –  
we are brothers, sisters, all.

Whatever fate does one befall  
that fate does touch us all.

Like a mighty river's flow  
in rosy light of evening's glow,  
move multi-coloured feet  
upon the crowded street.

## ***THY BROTHER'S BLOOD***<sup>1</sup>

Danger! I see a stranger!  
Danger! perhaps his eyes are brown or blue  
or some other unusual hue.  
Danger! perhaps his hair is black or fair, so have a care,  
for only red or brown is fine - it has to be like mine.  
Has he round or slanted eye? What would that imply?  
What shape is his nose? What would that disclose?  
What colour is his skin? Does he have receding chin?  
Is politeness his disguise? Does he tell lies?  
What language does he speak?  
Does he dress like a freak?  
Is he aggressive and strong? Will he belong?

To which God does he pray - how many times a day?  
Would he lead my kids astray?  
In prayer, covers he his head - or leaves it bare instead?  
Does he use articles weird, by us feared?  
Does he kneel, bow or stand?  
What book holds he in his hand?  
Does he pray on carpet kneeling, or stand with body swaying?  
Does he sing or chant? Will his commandment he recant?

Is he more poor than we - will he envy me?  
Will he take my place - he of another race?  
Will he bring me sorrow tomorrow?  
Will he steal - do dishonest deal?

Is he powerful and rich, will he grab important niche?  
At my expense?  
Is his presence a threat, if my wife or child he met!  
Perhaps his great grandfather came, and our land did claim,  
grabbing ruthlessly, in long past history

---

<sup>1</sup> Genesis 4: 9,10: "And the Lord said unto Cain ...What hast thou done? the voice of *thy brother's blood* crieth unto me from the ground."

if so - revenge must be!

*Seed of suspicion sown,  
of ignorance, fear, and envy born.*

Those strangers whom we hate must not us contaminate;  
those who come o'er land or sea,  
e'en live close by to you and me,  
whose customs, habits I beware - they scare.  
They're different, they're a threat, to be met  
with violence if need be,  
by all who are like me.  
Look, he's NOT my brother, he's another.  
Him and his kind I hate,  
let us them eliminate.

Let's have a final ending!  
Let's have an ethnic cleansing!  
With machete, knife or gun,  
we'll have them on the run.  
Terrible tableaux:  
vicious blows, blood flows,  
screams, moans, anguished groans.  
Torture, rape, wounds gape;  
refugees cower and quake.

My murderous deeds I can't conceal,  
death is final - death is real,  
for the slain there's no appeal.

God's thundering voice exclaims -  
" WHAT IS THY NAME ! "  
**" My name is Cain" <sup>1</sup>**

---

<sup>1</sup> Genesis 4: 8 "...Cain rose up against his brother and slew him."



## OF THE SIN OF PRIDE

James 4:6 “ Wherefore he saith,  
God resisteth the proud, but giveth  
grace unto the humble.”

Matthew 5:3 “ Blessed are  
the poor in spirit: for theirs  
is the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 5:5 “ Blessed  
are the meek: for they  
shall inherit the earth.”

Proverbs 16:5 “Every one *that is* proud in heart *is* an  
abomination to the Lord ... he shall not be unpunished.”

Proverbs 16:18 “ Pride goeth before destruction, and  
an haughty spirit before a fall.”

Isaiah 13:11 “... and I  
will cause the  
arrogancy of the proud  
to cease, and will lay  
low the haughtiness of  
the terrible (ruthless).”

These verses from Psalm 24 relate to the poems  
about pride and avarice that follow.

***PSALM 24***

verses 3 - 5

**" Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord?  
or who shall stand in his holy place?  
He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart;  
who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity,  
nor sworn deceitfully.  
He shall receive the blessing from the Lord,  
and righteousness from the God of his  
salvation."**

## ***THE PARABLE OF THE SHEPHERD***<sup>1</sup>

Once upon a time -  
A shepherd cloaked in holy Light stood on a Godly hill,  
a servant of the Sacred God,  
and carrying out His Will.  
That shepherd serving on that hill  
was sent to heal the sick,  
and much wisdom to instill  
and consciences to prick.

Around him gathered flocks of sheep,  
in love and faith they came;  
good health and peace did they all reap,  
in joy they spoke his name.

As time went by his fame was spread,  
his flocks did grow and grow,  
then shepherd's pride upon them fed  
and caused them pain and woe.<sup>2</sup>

He thought he was the very best  
no shepherd great as he,  
he thought that he was special blest  
his heart was filled with glee.

Now shepherd's service price was dear,  
he asked for money dues,  
so little sheep themselves did shear  
their shepherd not to lose.

---

<sup>1</sup> The sins of Pride, Avarice and Anger.

<sup>2</sup> Psalms 38:20 "They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; ...."

## The Parable of the Shepherd

Only sheep that had thick coats  
could shepherd's help afford.  
On them did shepherd dote;  
on them he built his hoard.<sup>1</sup>

His ego grew, no more aglow  
his light began to shrink;  
no seeds of healing could he sow,  
no fountain where to drink.

As power faded, bit by bit  
his love to anger turned;  
to God's laws did not submit,  
faith was no longer earned.

Demands for dues did higher rise<sup>2</sup>,  
pretence and falsehood reigned;  
self praise under a humble guise,  
goodness, love was feigned.

One day there came a little ewe  
in pain and great distress,  
with hope for healing, comfort too,  
and faith he would her bless.

The shepherd, critical and cold,  
with anger spoke, and lies ,  
untruths of past events he told,  
to her demoralize.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ezekiel 34:2 " ... ,Thus saith the Lord God unto the shepherds; Woe *be* to the shepherds... that do feed themselves!..."

<sup>2</sup> Luke 16:13 "No servant can serve two masters:.... Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

## The Parable of the Shepherd

The disillusioned ewe in pain,  
yet faith in God still strong,  
went quickly into God's Domain  
where she knew ewes belong.

God is the Highest Force, she mused,  
no shepherd shall I seek.  
I never more will be abused,  
to God direct I'll speak.

## EPILOGUE

*Love for all<sup>1</sup> is God's own cure  
to help all to become more pure.  
The shepherd might yet debt repay  
and join the righteous shepherd's way.  
Pray to wipe out his disgrace  
that he again live in God's Grace;  
that he be cloaked once more in Light  
to be a beacon shining bright;  
again to stand on Godly hill<sup>2</sup>  
and carry out the good Lord's Will.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Matthew 22:37-40 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

<sup>2</sup> Psalms 15:1 and 2 "Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?" "He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart."

**OF THE SIN OF AVARICE  
AND THE VIRTUE OF SHARING**

Matthew 6:24 “ No man can serve two masters.... Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”

Proverbs 28:27 "He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack ...."

Luke 6:38 “ Give, and it shall be given unto you; ...”

Matthew 6:19,20 “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth,... But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...”

Psalms 41:1,2 “ Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.”

Matthew 5:42 “Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.”

Proverbs 19:17 "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord ; and that which he hath given will he pay him again."

Deuteronomy 15:11 " ... Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor and to the needy, in thy land."

## ***CRIES OF DESPAIR***

Passers by  
in crowded, downtown city,  
say: "What a pity"!<sup>1</sup>  
People sleeping on a grate -  
Wherever do they urinate?  
People sit slumped in doorway,  
clothing in disarray,  
body in decay;  
toothless stubbled face, stumbling pace;  
women dressed in clothes like rags,  
pushing carts hung with many bags;  
many with no roof overhead,  
many who don't have their own bed,  
some who sleep in cardboard shed.

Family bereft, who don't resort to theft,  
when jobs were lost, could not pay the cost;  
now in cars they sleep  
and children fuss and weep<sup>2</sup>.  
Shelters sometimes take, what a heartache  
to have to depend on others to befriend  
and try not to offend.  
In need of food - often with brood,  
sometimes to need to ask -  
a soul-destroying task  
to use food banks, and murmur thanks.  
What humiliation, that in this wealthy nation  
there be such desperation, such degradation.  
Is one free, living in such poverty ?

---

<sup>1</sup> Psalms 41:1 "Blessed *is* he that considereth the poor : the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble."

<sup>2</sup> Romans 12:15 "... and weep with them that weep."

Oh listen! to the silent cries of despair to those who stare,  
who do not share,  
who do not care,  
who sometimes glare.

Stricken souls in great distress  
reduced to lives in painful mess -  
how fell they through the net ?  
When forced to overwhelming debt,  
with hopeless problems so beset,  
how fell they through the net ?

Its not enough to say "a pity"<sup>1</sup>,  
to depend on charity.  
It's an abomination  
that there be this tragic population,  
their lives in ruination <sup>2</sup>.  
How can one stand proud of rich country  
when in every town and city  
some folk live in abject poverty?  
It is a nation's tragedy!

---

<sup>1</sup>James 3:15,16 "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"

Matthew 5:42 " Give to him that asketh thee,..."

Matthew 6:3 " But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:"

Matthew 7:12 "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

<sup>2</sup> Deuteronomy 15:7 " If there be among you a poor man ... in thy land ... thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand from thy poor brother."



## ***THE MONEY TREE***

Once there was a magic tree  
which heaven sent for all to see;  
it had a special property -  
it could appear at will,  
move about or stand quite still;  
it gave the people quite a thrill.

Because you see:  
Its coloured leaves were made of cash,  
attracting all - from mild to brash.  
That cash was always new and clean  
and covered with a silvery sheen.  
Its fruit was made of purest gold,  
each sphere the shade of marigold;  
those golden balls hung in profusion,  
their great value no illusion !

Whoever plucked from magic tree  
could have the gold and money free,  
but fate of all that currency  
was based on generosity.

Those who held their money tight,  
counting it by day and night  
in their acquisitive delight,  
and did not other folk invite  
no matter what their state or plight  
to share with them - those God did smite !

Their money leaves turned into dust,  
their golden balls turned into rust,  
their money lust turned to disgust,  
leaving owners in despair,  
claiming life was so unfair.

## The Money Tree

But those who money did dispense  
to those in need or indigence  
began to have more affluence.  
Their acquisitions from that tree  
multiplied by three times three,  
rewarding owners for largesse –  
more and more did they possess.  
That was Heaven's consequence  
of their benign beneficence!

This parable is sent to say -  
share your wealth - give some away.  
If you decide to stingy be  
you can foresee,  
you'll lose your loot from money tree !

## *TRAGIC FATE*

The hall is long and gray, smelling of Lysol spray.  
Like images strange,  
aged people with minds deranged,  
bodies slumped, shoulders humped.  
Many in wheelchairs bound, making anguished sound.  
Eyes with dimming sight, blinking in the light,  
some are rimmed with tears, apprehensive with their fears.  
Some gnarled hands in blankets twist, others make an angry fist,  
still other hands quiver and shake.  
Minds of many barely awake.  
Some up and down in restless stride  
seeking safety, where to hide?  
or searching for a distant home as to their past they try to roam.  
Some agitated try to flee-  
yet know not where they might be free.  
Some - in and out of cloudy nightmare  
of surroundings are aware.  
Others lost in strange delusion  
live in terror and confusion,  
or hallucinate.  
Tragic, tragic fate!  
For them it is too late.  
Their families feel despair  
as their own miseries they bear.  
Release can only come when life, so burdensome  
to merciful Death succumbs.  
Then God, who all of us did make  
their weary souls to Him will take.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Ecclesiastes 12:7 "... and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."

## *FAREWELL TO A MOTHER*

Old age upon her came  
and senility made its claim.  
An institution was her home,  
my mother could no longer roam.  
She required endless care;  
I felt as if my heart would tear;  
trapped in body and senile mind,  
no medical miracle could we find.  
Knowing that we soon must part  
brought an ache unto my heart.  
She stayed gentle and serene,  
still a loved and gracious queen.  
When the merciful Angel of Death  
came as she drew her final breath,  
I was by her bed, stroking that lovely head.  
As her limbs grew cold and blue,  
a cover over them I drew,  
with tears.  
My love did her embrace  
as I prayed for God to give her grace.  
I knew her soul would soar  
to some blessed Heavenly shore,  
to find release and never-ending peace.  
  
Farewell for now, my mother.

## ***TO LAURIE'***

Dearest Laurie, sister, friend -  
Your soul's life will never end.

Your spirit, noble, good and true  
inspires all those close to you.

Oh, how loving, strong and brave <sup>2</sup>  
is the example that you gave.

You are a radiant shining light  
that soars to mankind's greatest height.

We are the ones who lucky are  
to be illumined by your star!

God has chosen you to show  
the path that other souls should go.

Our love for you will never end -  
dearest Laurie, sister, friend.

## ***GOING HOME***

My death is nigh, my thoughts soar high.  
The eternal me is going home  
where God's Love dwells supreme,  
where God will me redeem.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Dedicated to Laurie Maxon Katz, 1943-1996, who died of ALS.

<sup>2</sup> Proverbs 31:25 "Strength and honour *are* her clothing".

<sup>3</sup> Psalms 31:5 "Into thine hand I commit my spirit; thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth."

## ***THE HIGHEST POWER*** <sup>1</sup>

Evil<sup>2</sup> ! it has many faces and leaves many traces.  
Evil! you may meet it in any home or street.  
Evil ones may leaders be or very close to you and me,  
pretending to be friends or help our problems mend.  
They may pretend to care to trap us in a snare<sup>3</sup> .  
Of such as these beware!  
Evil! in places far and near it may suddenly appear,  
appear as if by magic, with consequences tragic.

So if you wish to ask "How know I evil's mask?"  
then consider this:  
Does a countenance smile to hide extremes of guile?  
Is arrogance and pride and malevolence inside?  
Is suffering and pain inflicted for some gain?  
While cloaked in cunning guise  
are strength and power used, the weaker to abuse?  
Does corruption teach in articulate speech?  
Are hypocrisy and lie concealed by tongue so sly?  
Evil! it is the great deceiver, a falsehood weaver.  
It will confuse by every ruse.

Comes now a time of woe<sup>4</sup> that prophecies did show,  
when tribulations mount and all our deeds do count.  
The choice is ours to make<sup>5</sup> which fork of road to take.  
Would one follow evil power or feeling helpless, cower,  
as it the world asunder rends and generates disastrous trends,

---

<sup>1</sup>John 1:1-3 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

<sup>2</sup>Isaiah 1:16 "...put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes ; cease to do evil."

<sup>3</sup>Psalms 37:32 "The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him."

<sup>4</sup>Matthew 24:21 "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."

<sup>5</sup>Proverbs 4:14 "Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men."  
Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

as cruelties unfold, aggressive and so bold,  
as darkness spawns fear and many a tear?  
Evil! it can contaminate, teaching us to hate;  
it can leave us trapped in hellish fate<sup>1</sup>  
The nations' efforts to resolve into nothingness dissolve<sup>2</sup>.  
Do not wait till its too late<sup>3</sup>.

*There is the Highest Power<sup>4</sup> which over all does tower!*

If we cry out "we're lost-help us at any cost"<sup>5</sup> ,  
and to God we humbly kneel and pray<sup>6</sup>  
and tell Him that we choose His way,  
then God sends out a Light  
so full of Love and Might  
that Peace and Justice reign<sup>7</sup>  
with Righteousness proclaimed<sup>8</sup>.  
Then we'll stand for all our days  
beneath God's Holy Rays<sup>9</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Psalms 1:6 "... the way of the ungodly shall perish."

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 28:7 "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:..."

<sup>3</sup> Matthew 24:44 "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

Matthew 25:13 "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.."

<sup>4</sup> Mark 11:22-24 "And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God..... Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. "

<sup>5</sup> Psalms 121: 1,2 "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

<sup>6</sup> Matthew 7:7,8 " Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

<sup>7</sup> Revelation 11:17 "We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned."

<sup>8</sup> Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled "

<sup>9</sup> Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God."

# *TRUST BETRAYED*<sup>1</sup>

A deceitful<sup>2</sup> predator came  
with a trusted name;  
dark and sleek in looks,  
accredited in books.  
In admiration he basked  
while in geniality masked.  
Pretending to befriend<sup>3</sup>, he swayed his victims to depend.  
Deception was his creed and seduction was his deed.<sup>4</sup>  
A sly and evil snake, advantage<sup>5</sup> he did take  
of innocent and vulnerable, with consequences horrible.  
In the traps where they were led, his victims suffered while he fed.  
With cruel and merciless lust, he betrayed society's trust.  
Concealed by his role he achieved seduction's goal<sup>6</sup>.

Some with pain in heart did revengefully depart.  
These victims spoke with zeal of his nature real.  
As illusions fade and yield, he stands a beast revealed !  
Now true stories circulate, begetting much disgust and hate;  
gone respect for name, gone sought-after fame<sup>7</sup>.  
End of vicious game.

---

<sup>1</sup> The sin of Lechery.

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 7:15 “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. “

<sup>3</sup> Psalms 41:9 “Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted,...”

<sup>4</sup> Leviticus 20:10...21 (sexual prohibitions)

<sup>5</sup> Jude 1:7 “ Even as Sodom and Gomorrhah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”

<sup>6</sup> Matthew 7:20 “Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”

<sup>7</sup> Galatians 6:7 “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”



## ***FORGIVENESS***

Dear God:<sup>1</sup>

When a black, burning stone,  
from anger and resentments grown,<sup>2</sup>  
lies heavy on the heart,  
sending hate to those apart,  
whose harmful deeds still sting,<sup>3</sup>  
whose hurtful words still ring —

Please help—  
that such darkness may depart  
letting light into the heart.  
Please help us to forgive<sup>4</sup>,  
that we may live  
without a blight ,  
in Thy Holy Radiant Light.

---

<sup>1</sup> Exodus 3:14 “...I AM THAT I AM...”

<sup>2</sup> Leviticus 19:18 "Thou shalt not ... bear any grudge..., but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself:..."

<sup>3</sup> Psalms 7:16 “His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.”

Deuteronomy 32:36 “ For the LORD shall judge his people, ...”

<sup>4</sup> Luke 6:37 “...forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:”

Matthew 18:21,22 “ Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.”

Luke 6:27-29 “ But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which spitefully use you. And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; ...”

Romans 12:20 “Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.”

## *A LADY RARE*

Her gentle presence came to bless  
those in need and in distress;  
always gracious, warm and kind,  
with thoughts of others in her mind.

She thought: "How do they fare",  
and gave them of her care.  
She said: "I understand",  
and gave a helping hand<sup>1</sup>.

She gave from her heart,  
and though she's done her part  
on the earthly plane,  
in the Heavenly Domain,  
she must like an angel be,  
a radiance to see,  
still giving of her care,  
a soul rare.

---

<sup>1</sup> Proverbs 31:26 " She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue  
*is* the law of kindness."

## ***THE HUMBLE ONE<sup>1</sup>***

*"I'm humble, you know"*  
she often says.

"You must know I've naught to hide,  
all purity I am inside.  
You see how very clean I am,  
and know I never hoist a dram."

"From straight and narrow I don't stray,  
nor do I any soul betray ;  
to my God I always pray  
that others do not lose their way."

"I never ever others judge,  
nor do I ever hold a grudge ;  
I never harm another soul,  
to be good – that is my role."

"I can the greatest pain endure  
and I can even cures procure ;  
my example others praise –  
it truly does my flock amaze !"

"You know that my house has no stain  
and that I'm known to be humane;  
I welcome all to my domain  
that I may help them with their pain."

"My love for all I do profess  
(although that's tough, I do confess),  
of helping them I don't complain  
because it makes for my good name."

---

<sup>1</sup>Proverbs 27:2 "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth..."  
Matthew 23:12 "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that is humble himself shall be exalted."

The Humble One

"I never boast about my stock  
(which is aristocratic),  
nor do I brag about my flock  
(how they're all ecstatic)."

"Because— I care not to have acclaim,  
nor do I ever strive for fame ;  
you see – I holiness attain,  
as *that* did God for me ordain."

"Let others speak of my noblesse,  
let others boast of my prowess,  
let others say that I impress,  
let others say "God does her bless" ."

"Of course –  
*they* may speak what *I* can't say,  
I would not myself display "  
" *I'm humble, you know !*"

## *A PRAYER*<sup>1</sup>

Beloved Father-Mother God:

In everything I think and do  
I feel Thy Holy Presence too.

For every step I wished to take  
Thy Holy Voice to me spake .

For all my hurts I ask Thy aid,  
so that I need not be afraid .

In every cloud and leaf and bird  
Thy Holy Voice is seen and heard.

Beloved God, our thanks to Thee  
for all that lives by Thy decree.

Thy ever present Love, dear Lord  
brings to me my best reward.

I love Thee, our Lord and Friend,<sup>2</sup>  
Who does Thy universe transcend.

---

<sup>1</sup> Proverbs 15: 8 "...the prayer of the upright *is* his delight."

<sup>2</sup> Deuteronomy 6:5 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might"

## *LIGHTS OF LOVE*

From throbbing heart, to those apart,  
are sent out loving rays of gold  
which whirl and twirl and unfurl  
sending forth fingers of radiant light,  
which, touching gates  
closed by hates  
ignite and consecrate.

They penetrate murky hazes,  
open blind gazes,  
enter empty spaces  
and cold dark places,  
leaving their traces of loving fire  
to inspire  
those who need to see;  
for them they are a key,  
the loving rays of gold  
which warm the icy cold  
of loneliness;

They come to bless and to caress,  
with warm embrace, with angelic grace  
they swiftly race  
to those apart with stony heart,  
them to entice to paradise,  
wherein love reigns and sustains.

## *SOULMATES*

Where we are  
there is no space or time;  
we float in a bubble divine,  
in our shrine,  
hands entwine;  
with each sweet kiss  
more heavenly bliss;  
we are one heart,  
we cannot part;  
our minds blend,  
my dearest friend, we cannot end;  
we are one,  
as one we were born,  
to each the other sworn <sup>1</sup>;  
we are the same,  
we are one name.  
Beloved God -  
we pray to thee  
that together we be  
eternally,  
in the bubble divine,  
in our shrine  
where there is no time,  
his hand in mine.

---

<sup>1</sup> Song of Solomon 2:16 “My beloved *is* mine, and I *am* his:...”

## ***INSPIRATION***

From a fertile mystic place  
where there is light and love and grace,  
come ideas, God inspired,  
which set creative souls afire ;  
inspirations, strong and swift  
to excite and to uplift.

Important writings – eloquent ;  
Paintings, sculptures – magnificent ;  
Thrilling music – wonderment ;  
Sciences – enlightenment ;  
Ethics, morals – betterment ;  
Theology – a testament.

These find their place in man's ascent  
from caveman's art to the firmament.  
As genius seeks its soaring themes  
to manifest its highest dreams,  
it's used as God's own instrument  
to build the needed monument,  
to help accomplish Sacred goals  
that are recorded in the Scrolls.



## *MY LAKE*

My lake was scoured by icy power,  
conceived in glacial retreat,  
now a world complete.

It's long, narrow, deep,  
in places rocky shore is steep.

Like sentinels the guarding trees surround,  
and rocks lie scattered on pine-needled ground.  
The oak and maple, birch and spruce, and pine  
extend their branches to entwine,  
habitat for creatures small,  
who fly and run and feed and crawl.  
See - little chipmunks running - tails up high,  
birds cavorting in the sky;  
hear - the woodpecker's rat-a-tat-tat, rat-a-tat-tat,  
the whippoorwill's aggressive nightly chat,  
the haunting cries of the exquisite loon  
epitome of nature's great commune.

In heat of day  
the lovely pines emit bouquet,  
the air perfumed by their delicious spray.

My lake embraces  
many changing faces.

It's morning mist so soft and cool and grey,  
disintegrates in warmer sunshine of the day;  
my lake becomes a shining mirror clear  
where no disturbing ripple dare appear;  
its trees and rocks in shimmering reflection,  
gazing at their own sublime perfection.

My Lake

Then currents move and breezes blow  
and foam and waves begin to show;  
shades and hues of cooling colours change -  
from blues to greys through greens they range;  
the water gently laps at edge of shores.  
That soothing gentle sound my soul restores.

My lake surrounds a tiny virgin isle - a miniature  
unspoiled and pure,  
thick with pine and spruce  
untouched by human use.

The west wind blows,  
and later still the gentle silence grows,  
broken only by the whippoorwill - until he's still.  
At night the stars look down from their great height,  
the shore a jewelled ring of sparkling light.  
Listen - there's the train's faint and mournful whistle -  
bringing yearning to my heart;  
now it fades and then reluctantly departs.

As sleep enfolds, I feel profound content,  
and an ecstatic wonderment  
at how magnificent is God's creation<sup>1</sup> -  
inspiring adoration.

---

<sup>1</sup> Genesis 1:31 “ And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.”

## ***PATHS TO LIGHT*<sup>1</sup>**

**From the depths of darkness to radiant pure light<sup>2</sup>,  
from violence and cruelty to spiritual might,  
from arrogance and pride to true humility,<sup>3</sup>  
from hate, insensitivity, to love<sup>4</sup> and empathy,  
from ignorance and error to wisdom<sup>5</sup> of the mind,  
from evil deeds and selfishness to service<sup>6</sup> to mankind.**

---

1. Psalms 27:1 “ The LORD is my light and my salvation;...”

Psalms 18:28 “ ...the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness. “

2. John 8:12 “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life”;

3. Matthew 5:3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit (the humble): for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

4. Matthew 5:43, 44 “Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;”

5. Matthew 7:24 “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:”

6. Matthew 5:4 “ And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also.”