

One Voice in Protest: Poems in Hope

BY

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Dedicated

To my Dad & Mum,
who always believed in me and taught me to walk in the
Sacred, stick to my convictions and change the world. My
Dad for all the money and time put in to help me learn my
craft of dancing with words. I know some early mornings
you would have rather been sleeping Pops, and I love you
for it.

INTRODUCTION

A society that cannot house its own people is dysfunctional.

-Paul Martin, Former Prime Minister of Canada

On a cool January night in 2006 Canadians rejected the Parliamentary leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada under Paul Martin. Not so much because of Martin himself, but rather because of the corruption and scandal brought to the country under the leadership of his predecessor Jean Chretien.

With the loss of the Martin government to the people of Canada came a devastating blow to the social safety net that we as a culture espouse to value. With the election of a Conservative government propped up by the Bloc Quebecois and New Democratic Lite... the people had a pittance thrown at them, the well being of our children in public day care sold for a mere \$100 a month. Money worth more than lives as more soldiers are sent abroad to die. A restructuring of society and an erosion of the soul that is Canadian-eh.

Leaders seek power and have forgotten that they are elected to help the people. People are overworked attempting to make ends meet as privatization and foreign ownership continues unabated by governments that seem

detached, all that is left is for the people to speak out and use their franchise to renew the soul. Shake off the apathy of the ballot box and embrace that which has previously made Canada a great social state.

This is a collection of sacred poems written in times of quiet as I prepared for seasons of my life as political candidate; human rights activist; counselor and monastic pastor. These are my times, like Moses, of going up the mountain and having a cuppa with God.

I hope these words will inspire you to use your own voice dancing with words and actions to speak out for those that don't have a voice:

1. Make health care truly universal and public.
2. Fully funded public day care.
3. Full public education from pre-school to PhD
4. An end to all user fees.
5. A house for everyone.
6. Food in every cupboard and fridge.
7. True public power.

It is a time to end the oppression that seizes our nation and our world, like in times past to take up the protest and speak up and be voices for us and for those who society has stripped the voice from.

Shalom & Namaste.

One

Mother God
Wash your compassion
Into me

Remove my self-imposed
Laryngitis
Allow words of wisdom
No venom
To come forth

Use me God
To speak your love
Into our ailing country

Empower me!
To speak out
Against the injustice
So evident.

Two

Our world
In turmoil
Innocents
Oppressed
Injustice
Rampant
Children
Cry
Your tears
God
Mingle
As Elders
Weep

Our leaders
Corrupt
More concerned
With profits
Than those they are
Called
To serve
Lost in evil
They are.

Devi
Purify
Ourselves
Our governments
Bring dreamers
Visionaries
Those courageous
To speak out
Act justly
To lead

Allow forgiveness
Reconciliation
Truth
Hope
To become our center

Harmony
Peace
To supplant
Poverty

War
Healing
Replace
Disease
Love
Instead of
Hate

Bring our world leaders
Mother
And creation
To your bosom
Nurse us to your character
Before you wean us

Change our world
By pouring your spirit
Through us

Three

God our city is in pain, and your people are in hiding, for the most part. What glory of yours would be revealed if all your children lived the grace you have blessed us with? Would there still be children selling their bodies and losing their souls? Would toxins still pollute the temples your hand crafted? Would life be so cheap? Empower your children Lord; pour out your Spirit upon them to spread light in the darkness. Amen.

Four

The world cries
Gaia raped
For shiny toys
Legs tied
Spread open

God heal us
Shatter the tethers
That bind us

Your saints
Renew
Empower
Strengthen

Grant us this
So your Queendom
Can be built here
As in Heaven.

Let your transforming love
Heal us
Gaia forgive us
Reconcile us
As we live anew
In peace.

Five

Personal responsibility
GONE
Billions of people
Self-obsessed
More concerned with "ME"
Than "US"

Selfishness
Workaholics
Stress-addicts

Opens the door
Abuse
Oppression
Corruption
Addiction
Hate

Governments
More concerned
Building their own bank accounts
Than empowering people.

Silence
Wells are poisoned
Water aflame
Land-strip mined
Crops fail
Herds fade
Economies strain
Costs soar
Wages fall

CRISIS!

Accept,
Our silence
Fuels oppression
No more studies

ACT!

Time to step up
Time to speak out
Time to act

To renew justice
To renew fairness
To renew equality
To renew healing

Time to live
 Like others matter
 That lives are richer
 Than dollars and coins.

Time to live
 As if we're
 Accountable

Six

Staring up
Night sky
Stars and moons
Prayers tumble
From my lips
Will the stars shine brighter?

A time of change
Where Ra sleeps
Diana comes out
To hunt

Where darkness
Controlled
By light
Of the stars
Stars
Man has eliminated
For false lamp light

Stars
Need to shine
Again
To keep darkness
At bay

Reignite the night
God,
And confuse
The darkness
That tries to
Frighten
Control
Devour
And
Destroy
Your children.

Seven

Present
Time of change
Oceans of Her
Wash over me
Renew
Emerge
My new
True self
One
With
The Cosmic Christ
Within,
New dreams
New vocation
Seasons of new life.

Eight

Clarity
Mind, body, heart and spirit
A refreshing rain
Bringing forth new life
Igniting the old

A fire stripping through
A forest
Destroying the old
In the heat of destruction
New life ignites

My journey
With Her
Feel refreshing winds
Cleaning away debris of the soul.

Cool
Refreshing
Water
Showering down
Stripping away
The grime of the old false self.

Your fire burning
Inside-out
My old-false self.
Succumbing to the blaze.
My new-true self
Remains
Newly
Awake.

Nine

Million and one
Plus infinity
Reasons
Excuses
Those without
Are punished
Let without help
Treated less than
Human.

Excuses
Why we allow:
Drugs;
Alcohol;
Environment;
 Claims lives
We turn away
Remain silent
Pleas for help
Ignored
Never truly
Heard.
To tired
Watch as disease
Claims another

Never mind
Does not matter.
He/she was one of them
An "IT"
It is lazy
It brought it on itself.
It is our brother,
Our sister
It is a true child of God.

Look the poor in the eyes
Ask a name
Go from nameless;
Hopeless masses
To personal
See the suffering
As they truly are
One of us.
God on earth.

Ten

Journey to the well
Amazing
Dip our hands
Scoop up
Cool thirst quenching
Water
Life giving
Creative flow
Splash our face
Wet our lips

Awake
To the world
Like a new age
Buddha

Her creation
The way she sees it
Through Christ's
Eyes

Shining
Cosmic light
Eternal night
Confuse the night
Drive it out
Of Soul
Cosmic Christ
Emerges.

Gospel
Fulfilled
Into communion
With Sacred Creator
And creation.

Eleven

To go deeper
Beyond labels
Beyond dogmas
Beyond institutions
To simply commune
Within the Sacred Heart of Her.
Allow Her to commune
With your heart.

We dance daily
With royalty
Only our hearts
Know
If we will embrace
The love
That brings us into
Her monarchy.

Twelve

Lost in anger,
 She bleeds to release the pain
The blade cuts through her skin.
 Too young to know better
To ignored to be loved.
 Lord equip me with the words
To let her know
 They are those that love
And are for her,
 Even when she feels
The whole World
 Would be better without her.
 Utreya.

Thirteen

Point of view
How hard it is to move
Ego
See a story
Through another's eyes

Violence. Hatred.
World ripped apart

Friend or foe?
Cool or geek?
Bully or bullied?
Patriot or terrorist?
Label soup
Drown's out
God's love.

Cosmos
Hardens a film
Chokes out
Wisdom eternal
Life lost
In the much & mire

Spirit of God
TRAPPED
Forever
Not being
Expressive
Creative
Empowering

Fourteen

Pick a well
Drink the crystal clear
Fresh water
Deeply

Feel your thirst
Quenched

Cool water
Dribble from your lips
Soak through your clothes
Dampen your skin

Laugh
You see other
Wells
Sample other waters
Deeply
Shallowly

Know the source
Intimately
Like
A soul lover

One river
Many wells

One river
Surging
Splashing
Renewing
Washing
Aiding
Spawning
LIFE.

Fifteen

How long O' Devi
Until all are fed?
Diseases cured
Diversity embraced
Weapons of mass destruction
Are pounded into ploughs
Rich and poor
Cease to exist
All of creation
No longer seen
As commodities
Exploited
Free market
Revealed as lie

How long...
Until all work
For the common good
Till humanity
Reconciled
Hatred and anger
Replaced
With love and peace.

How long...
Until your children
Build your Queendom
On Earth,
In the Cosmos
As in Heaven

How long O' Creator
Until we all embrace you
In
US
And in you?

How long...

Sixteen

Lord lift us up as a people of you.
We fall short, of how you created us
And become lost in our own self-interest
Instead of turning to you for your help
We believe our power is enough to endure
And build your kingdom here on earth
As you have in heaven
We plead that you forgive us our
Sins
In not only our actions, but our words and thoughts as well
So that we may re-enter your promised glory anew. Amen.

Seventeen

Division, words and standards created by humanity.
Pettiness and Pride, turning off the valve of love,
separates your church. We know better than you Lord, as to
what makes a follower of you...we are wrong, and we bring our
burden to you...Lord humble your children so in our unity the
world will see your Glory. Amen.

Eighteen

God you are good.

You have promised to always hear us and love us.
I ask that when my brothers, my sisters or myself
Have fallen away from you
Facing pain, hunger, separation or loss,
And we know our sin,
Lord that when we come back to you to be reconciled,
Not only will you accept us, but also you will
celebrate our return.

O Divine Master

I pray for those who are lost in the night,

Who may be foreign to your holy Son;

Yet in their moments of day break,

When they cry out

Hear them

Welcome them

And celebrate them

For your church rests in your glory

Witnessed in Christ's earthly life

We walk with Christ daily in our earthly lives.

May your gifts of Love, Faith and Hope.

Be with us always

Amen.

Nineteen

Lost in translation, in a society and a church
That makes the sacraments
A joke
Easily walked away
From vows
To love
Honour,
And cherish
Through thick and thin
 Surrendering to our base animalistic self
We have lost the ability
To speak to the world
As your children are more lost,
Than the rest.
God help us
Do not abandon us,
Pour your love out upon us
So we may be empowered
To lead a revival of true Love.
 Ultreya

Twenty

Alleluia Lord! It is in your heart, your love, and your power that this world will be changed. We your humble agents come before you and ask that you keep us safe, as we head out with nothing but ourselves to offer before the world. Let us be enough to show you. Amen.

Twenty-One

Weary
Looking out at a world
You called me to serve
Watching as so much hard work
Crumbles for nothing more
Than dollar signs
And bottom lines
Why should I bother Lord?
What have I to show for it?
Yet you continue to push and prod
For me to be that one voice
Crying out when no one else...
Will or can...
Just one day of rest...
Relieve my weary soul...
Please Lord.

Ultreya

Twenty-Two

What can be said Lord, as I stare out at my future, and there is nothing on the horizon, you have poured out dreams in me that have been accomplished. Another door closes and I wonder, where the next window will open. Where am I to wander next in the mystery of my walk with you Lord? Which new adventure will you open up before me? *Ultreya*.

Twenty-Three

Rain would be a blessing
A physical sign of renewal
Revival needed
To wash away the sins of the body
As our own humanness keeps us
From evangelizing
Nigh
Reclaiming our cities
And keeping the darkness
Confused
Dispersed...
Cleanse us Lord
Wash us in the blood of the Lamb
Grant us your peace.
Amen.

Twenty-Four

Lost in the furor of keeping up. So focused on loving neighbour we forget, that to love neighbour also means to be happy for what you have blessed them with God, and be content with the blessings we have. Not burden our hearts, work us to death to simply keep up in the material world. Blessings pour out from the pursuit of your excellence God in our profession, not the pursuit of worldly success. Help us to remember this and that your Son, sent his disciples out with nothing to rely on the love of their brothers and sisters.

Ultreya.

Twenty-Five

Tonight Lord, watch over your flocks as a shepherd does. Allow this night to be one of rest and renewal, so that we may go out in the morning to spread your glory in worship, action, thought and deed. Allow each of your flock that slumber tonight awake pouring forth your spirit.
Amen.

Twenty-Six

Kneel at the altar,
More than remembrance of a sacrifice
Maybe not as much as actual body and blood
But knowing as I stare upon the cross,
How amazing your love is for me
A broken schmuck
That I mean more to you than your own Son's life.
Amen.

Twenty-Seven

We are in the midst of when your Son walked with us, after he defeated death. Lord keep in our hearts the knowledge of this walk in our daily lives, that is it not just Holy Days when Christ is with us, but every day. Amen.

Twenty-Eight

O Divine Master
We know we are a judgmental people of yours
Always looking for something,
That makes us better than another
Yet you love us
You see us
As your beloved children
O God
Grants us your eyes
To see the world
Your ears
To hear the voices
The cries of our brothers and sisters
O Lord
Grant us your heart
That we may know
All are blessed
Regardless of their sort or condition
For it is in our pride
It is in our searching
For the "Great Sin"
That we lose you
In our own hearts
Restore us Lord.
Dad let us just see
The world that you loved so much
To send us your Son
As you see it
So we can bring
Your kingdom here
On Earth as
You have it in
Heaven.
Alleluia.

Twenty-Nine

For the Margins:

God, you looked out on us gathered at your Son's feet to learn. On that hill, where he looked to us-the ones the religious forgot and told us we were blessed by you. God we ask, no, we implore-that you allow us to go forward into the world to those who we have made believe that they cannot know you and let your light shine through us anew so they know they are among the blessed. Amen.

Thirty

On this day..
 We are in your eternal
Seventh day
 Lord,
Refusing your rest
 For our own busyness
The Lord has Acted..
 In my own life
Your blessings have poured out
 Through the gifts of words
You have given me
 Through healing
Of mind,
 Body,
 Spirit,
In myself
 And
 Loved Ones.
With the mentors
 And friends
 You have brought in my path..
We will rejoice..
 Share the story of you in us
Dance
 Shout
Make a joyful noise,
 Sing beautiful songs
Write poetry
 And tales
Of your wonders,
 Just enjoy..
 That you are our GOD.

and be glad in it. . .

 Finally
 Accepting
 Your eternal rest
 In your blessed creation.
 Amen.

Thirty-One

Our world
Shaken by war

God loves us

Our greed
Kills our children

God loves us.

A grandmother
Raises her granddaughter

God loves us

A mother
Rapes her son

God loves us

We have turned away
No longer love us

God loves us

We no longer
Love our neighbour

God loves us

Do we still love Her?

God loves us.

We weep & mourn
Loss of community & family
Her arms hold us in love.

We step out in faith for change.
Her arms hold us in love.

God loves us,
Do we love Her?

Thirty-Two

Dad, honesty and humility are what you call us to. I know I am weak in being your salt in this world, in letting my light shine outwards. It is far easier to follow the wrong flock of the world, than the Good Shepherd that is your Son, Jesus. Let our salt and light do as you commanded us to—not be hid and to be the good flavour in the world, be with your saints, equip us to bring you to our friends, neighbours, family and loved ones. Amen.

Thirty-Three

Light on our path
That is what you promise
Your word encourages
But your love empowers,
My neighbourhood is crying
Blood is on our streets
Your followers
Are guilty by non-action
I pray
That you equip us
To be your lights
In this darkness
 That your light
Through us
 Can change our community
To your heart.

Thirty-Four

Our ancestors could not see you without dying. Your wrath has burned against us sending us to exile, before that seeing the rainbow and remembering your hand wiping out creation. It was by your love you took the ultimate step to bring us back to you God, so that we could be in your presence, without blinders on. The glory of your Son brought us back to you, as he rose from the dead defeating death and by proxy evil in our stead. No sacrifice we could offer would come close, yet you still viewed us as salvageable. Tonight Lord, we simply beg that we can be blessed with your wisdom, compassion and grace to go forth and illuminate your love in the darkness that is our world. Amen.

Thirty-Five

She cries out
Once more raped
For nothing more than providing
The sustenance that we need
I weep Lord
At how we have misused
Abused
Stripped your beautiful creation
From china doll
To two bit whore
She weeps
Wanting to return
To majesty
Yet our hearts are hard
To her screams
As we crave more
Not thinking
Lost in the lust
Ignoring your commands
Of care and love
For her...
Lord,
Unhardened our hearts,
Let us see her
As you see us
Let us use our gifts
To heal
Your creation
So she can stop her tears
And smile again.

Thirty-Six

Why do we believe
Only prayers
"in Jesus' name."
are heard by you?

How do we pray
And not make you
A cosmic
Santa clause?

Why do we
Ignore you
In our hearts?

Why do we shudder
Scoff and run
From seeing you as
Female as well as male?

Why are your teachings
Your love
Twisted
To create hurt and hate?

What is true power?
How do we truly lead without you?
How can anyone inspire apart from you?

I walk in the darkness
But you dance in the light.

The moon
The world's veil
While we encourage good

She feels the pain
Gaia Raped
She cries
The rapists smile
Wallets full.

Thirty-Seven

Reassurance:

In the times of bliss you are there. Lord when we hit the depths of despair you are there. Whether we are healthy or sick-you are there. Educated or ignorant you are in our hearts. Be with us in the walk Lord; let us live in Perfect Joy for you are in our hearts no matter what. Amen.

Thirty-Eight

When your Son fell
And needed help,
The Spirit moved
And Simon of Cyrene met you

Lord, there are many
Who proclaim their faith in
Christ
But their actions are destructive
In wars,
Famines,
Pandemics,
Bad Leadership,
Selfishness
And cover-ups
But we know it is throwing stones
At glass houses
If we stand idle
And silent in the pain

Like Simon, who stepped up,
Despite the rage of the crowds,
Lord thrust your children of the world
Onto the world stage
Empowered by your grace
Your love
Your Holy Spirit
Your kingdom comes
Utreya.

Thirty-Nine

Community:

Lord bless your gathered saints around the globe. Let us remember that it is in encouraging one another that your light spreads, and we draw closer to you. Tear down the walls of denomination and pride to let your Son shine through us in our blessed diversity that is your body. Amen

Forty

You bragged on Job
Lord
Then the tests came
He lost
Everything
Yet stayed true

Lord let your Spirit move
In me
So that I may be like Job
At this time for darkness

Remove the stain of illness
From those I love
And their families

Hear the prayers for healing
O' Lord
Show your majesty
Where are you?
Why does it feel like we pray in vein?

I know we do not.
I know your ears hear.
What glory will you reveal?
When you heal all?
Utreya

Forty-One

Love for Enemy:

As towers crash, bombs explode on buses and gases fill out subway tunnels. We look with horror and hatred upon our enemies who cause us physical and economic suffering. Lord, we ask for your heart in these matters as we prepare for war or peace, let us look upon the world—and our fallen humanity, with the eyes of your Son as he hung on the cross to redeem us. Amen.

Forty-Two

Mother,
How easily we forget
In our celebration of
Those who can have children
That as you church
We are family
Your church
Built by women
Spread by the motherly love
In our pews
To the world
Where there is care
Concern
Teaching
Praying
There is a rock
Of faith
Found in the Spirit
So many of us
As wee ones
Taught simply to pray
By our mothers
Maternal and Spiritual
Amen.

Forty-Three

God we thank you for blessing us with women in our lives who let your love shine through them. They are our *Ammas* whether or not they realize it, helping us grow, and live out your love. We thank you for them, one of our most cherished gifts. Amen.

Forty-Four

The poor will always be with us
At what level should the poor live?
In our country so wealthy?
The government strips
Health care
And the church remains quiet
The government damages care of the child
And we don't bat an eye
A hostage dies trying to bring peace,
And the church closes their mouth.
The government shifts the definition of traditional
We create a clamour.
As your body
We have failed
To speak out
For the marginal
We have not visited you
When you were sick
In Jail
Clothed you
When you were naked
Or fed you
When you were hungry
We were too concerned
About our power
In society...
Amen.

Forty-Five

God we ask for a true Christian life that can only be lived with your Holy Spirit's baptism upon us. Do not let us become lost in the trivial, but be living the heart of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord in our world. Living so much that the subtlest of our actions will encourage others to answer your Son's knocking on the door of their heart that only they can open. Amen.

Forty-Six

From the ashes
Of burnout
The phoenix rising
Again.

Reborn
Renewed
To ash in
Nighttime slumbers

Re-awakened
In body
In morning light

To meet the dawn
Discover
Minister to creation
Allow
Creation to minister
To me.

Forty-Seven

We act shocked
We condemn
Ask how it could happen
In our community
Two girls locked away
Forced to sell their souls
One may be with child,
We act shocked
Scream for justice
But where were we Lord
That we turned a blind eye
To the evil our neighbour's house
Where were we reaching out?
Where were we living as community?
To shine your love?
Equip us Lord
To change this world.
Utreya.

Forty-Eight

How did we get where we are today? Where murders smile and wave at cameras. What point did we lose it, was it when we made games with points for raping women? Or points for murder? Or have we just given in to the darker corners of our own hearts as death tolls roll in from catastrophe and we do not blink; yet we can mobilize for the imminent crisis, but not long-term stability. Lord let us be there to walk through the healing. Equip us to shine brightly in the darkness. Show us the way back to your heart. Amen.

Forty-Nine

You are awesome,
God,
Without you there would be nothing
The skies,
The wonder of nature
And the cosmos
All come from your creating hand
You took chaos and made it order
The sound of your drums ring out
As your world
Your universe
Your galaxy
Your people
Created in Love
By you...
 Thank you
For creating.
 Ultreya.

Fifty

God as we drift of to slumber in the dark, we pray your light to protect. We thank you Lord, that by our own thoughts, words and deeds we know we fall short of your glory. Yet Lord in your compassion, you love us anyways and yearn for us to be in fellowship with you. Thank you Lord for just being you despite our humanness. Amen.

Fifty-one

It is so hard
To comprehend
How you can love...
Even those who are evil
Yet you did
Love enough to send us your Son
Lord let us rediscover your heart as a people
In the way we interact with our communities
So that your glory may shine through us
So hearts may be opened to your love.
Amen.

Fifty-Two

In honour of Canada's Peacekeepers, and those who went to
paradise instead of coming home to Canada.

Blessed are the peacemakers
Or so the Gospel tells us
Yet we keep burying our young
Who try to shine light
Into the darkness of countries ripped apart
By war
Now we bury
Our first
Woman casualty
Who loved her nation,
And stood on guard for thee..
Be with her family,
Her nation,
Let us hold fast to your love
And bless our peacekeepers.
Utreya

Fifty-Three

Dad,
The world is in trouble
Leaders care more about who has the power
And keeping the power
Your children are dividing
Labelling
In some nations
Being forced to bear a mark
You command us to pray for our leaders
No matter their stripe
As I watch the path supposed Christian leaders
Take my nation
Lord
I implore you
Shine your light upon their path.
I rip my shirt
And cry for you to unhardened their hearts
Towards one another
The media
And fellow citizens
Remind them the root of governance
Is service
Of the people.

Utreya

Fifty-Four

Lord, we ask for perseverance in our faith. We beg for boldness, as Mathaiias and his sons had in the face of the Seleucid occupation and desecration of Israel. Let us not waiver in living in your heart, and living out our faith in boldness, piety, study and action. To know that we have true freedom in you, and when we hold firm to our love of you our world will be radically changed for the better.
Ultreya.

Fifty-Five

The sun has risen
Another day begun
We are here
To serve you Lord.
Let us remember that all things
Flow from you
And you are in control,
That you Love us enough
To allow us to do harmful things to one another
Please let us act in your Love and Your Will
Not our pride and our will.
Let us seek you
Let us find you
Let us feel your love
Flow through us.
Amen.

Fifty-Six

I look out from my church's amphitheatre, to a community that is quiet. Almost a year ago, our children died on our streets, making choices for evil instead of good—bullets and blood. Lord equip you saints in this community to go out. To be the lights, the friends, the mentors, and the family that is needed...to transform the heart of a community for you. Amen.

Fifty-Seven

Endings

Lord walk with me

As doors close in my life

Words of farewell are spoken,

Gift me with words

That inspire

For the new teams

That takes over the endeavours Lord

Let the political leadership needed in the area

Thrive and grow

And open new doors

For new challenges and adventures

Thank you Lord for all the things I have been able to do

In my life of service to you.

Amen.

Fifty-Eight

Lord, we fall short of loving one another as you have loved us. We know this, but we pray that you will empower us to be able to do this. Anoint us with your Love and kindness Lord so that we may step out in faith and know that our actions do make positive impacts in our world. Amen

Fifty-Nine

How can we make amends lord?
For the beggars we leave
Dying in our streets
To the prisoner
Who is lonely,
Beaten
Or raped
Held without charge
By national governments
Both friends and foe
That we ignore and say
Well they have the authority
Whether rights
Or those created in your image are respected
With dog collars
Nudity
Sodomy
We go for the "truth"
As they say whatever it takes
To feel release..
Lord forgive us
For our stupidity
And degradation
Keep those imprisoned
Unjustly
Safe
From your "children".
Amen.

Sixty

For the Eucharist:

Alleluia! As we kneel at your altar Lord, let us partake of your healing blood, blood that washes away all our misdeeds and taste the bread of hope on our tongues, with humble hearts. Hearts that welcome your glory lovingly and openly to change this world for the better. Amen.

Sixty-One

Mummy,
I stand on the brink
Of new beginnings
Ministries of old
The doors are closing too
I wait to see what new blessings you pour out
Light my path
Guide me in your will
Let me be your minister in this world
Show me where I am needed to serve
And anoint me with your Spirit
For Service
Service to build your kingdom here on earth,
As it is in Heaven.
To truly live the change I want to see in this world,
The vision that you have given me.
Amen.

Sixty-Two

In the light of day, it is easy to follow you Lord. Yet in the darkness of night, we stand unsteady on our feet. Those who do not know you, so we do not lose face, or are viewed as uncool and go along for the ride easily sway us. Yet in the darkest dark of night God we know you are there calling out to us, your lost sheep. Lord we pray that you keep us as your people especially in the times when we are so unlike your Son, that it would be easy to despise us Lord. Amen.

Sixty-Three

The body is in pain Lord,
You have granted us such joys
There are births that are to happen
Blessings of miracles upon these couples,
Praying Lord that your protection be upon them
And their unborn children.

Cancer is rampant
Lord grant us your peace
And for those who suffer with this horrible illness
God lift them up in your loving arms
And heal them, they are your beloved children.
Remove the blight of sickness and pain from their bodies.

There are those among us Lord who suffer illnesses
Doctor's cannot diagnose
Grant the physicians your great wisdom
And compassion
To bring healing into the lives of your children.

There are those among us who suffer from addictions
To drugs, alcohol, material things, pornography or whatever
blocks us from you
Remove the stumbling blocks
Destroy the hunger pains that draw us back to our
addictions
Heal us o' great Physician
For it is the sick that need a doctor not the well.

O Divine Master
Grant us your peace, love, hope, joy and peace
So that we can be your hands and feet in this world
Provide the care that is truly empowered by you.

Utreya

Sixty-Four

Lord it is so unfair, you build up amazing ministries yet a saint shortage causes them to wan and die. I do not understand why we are called into the breach to be left twisting by our fellow servants in Christ Lord. Especially in the importance of discipling a new generation up in service for you to change this world for the better.

God I am so lost, the heart grows weary watching miracles pour out but having no one there to catch them, what shall happen to your body as the young remain leaderless, the children without a shepherd to guide them through the darkness of the world to the light that is in your heart.

Lord be with us in this time, empower and call those who have the gifts needed to equip the future generations. Light a fire under your saints' feet to get us active or consume us in our sloth.

Amen.

Sixty-Five

Your glory Lord is great.
We would be nothing without you.
You are the beginning and the end.
Such a glorious end we are promised.
No pain.
No pettiness.
No evil.
Just you and us.
Thank you God for your mercy.
Thank you God for your Love.
Thank you God for your faithfulness
Within our stupidity.
Thank you God for being the awesome God
Our words fail to describe adequately.
Amen.

Sixty-Six

The youngest generation
Harmed
Abused
Through action and inaction

In-bred
Sexualized
Commodified
Bought
Sold
For pennies

Disheartening
On display
Pedophile's dream
Our children
Crafted into

Sadness
Overwhelms
I foresee
Where the sexualized role
Children play
Leads.

Not to
Equality
Harmony
Peace
Like grandparents fought for.

NO!

Leads to
Self-destruction
On a rotting mattress
In a backroom
20-30 tricks a night
For the young body.

Sins of the parents
Visited on the child
Prophets words
Echo in our hearts
Falling on deafness

Idly indulgent
Petty rebellion
Norms of our parents
Stripped away

Our children
Nothing more
Freebies & twinkies
Offered up
To the demons
Of the child sex trade
Devils on earth
Powered by
Mummy & Daddy
Mastercard.

Sixty-Seven

Thought I had been faithful to my calling
Entering into a job
To help
Fulfill a ministry
Open up a safe sanctuary
For children and youth
Yet Lord
We stand on a cusp
I have been here before
I pray that you provide leaders and mentors
So the kingdom can continue to be built.
Lord we cry out
Show the light
Guide the hearts
To the ministries
Somehow Lord
Bless me with your wisdom to be able
To help people realize their calls.
Amen.

Sixty-Eight

Thought I had been faithful to my calling
Entering into a job
To help
Fulfill a ministry
Open up a safe sanctuary
For children and youth
Yet Lord
We stand on a cusp
I have been here before
I pray that you provide leaders and mentors
So the kingdom can continue to be built.
Lord we cry out
Show the light
Guide the hearts
To the ministries
Somehow Lord
Bless me with your wisdom to be able
To help people realize their calls.
Amen.

Sixty-Nine

The Creator
Is loving.

The creator
Is in everything.
Everything
Is in the Creator.

Love
Is the ultimate power
Fuels
All creation.

Love
Is running
On empty?

Seventy

Grant us boldness Lord Jesus. Just as Judas Maccabeus had before leading his legions into war. To have the strength to stand before you Lord and lift up our cries to be heard and answered. Cries to bring us victory over our adversaries in life whether it is self-doubt, addictions or demons seen or unseen. Lord be our sanctuary. Lord be our fortifications, lift us up out of the dredge no matter how overwhelmed we feel or how out numbered by the onslaught of the world in our ministry you have called us to. Hold us firm Lord, be the rock we can build our house upon to glorify your kingdom.

As the night crowds in Lord let your light, so brilliantly bright that the darkness that washes over us is put asunder. Let it be left confused and unable to infect us. Lord be true to us. Let us stand true in you despite our humanity.

Amen. Amen. Amen. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! You are glorious Lord!!

Lord let us be renewed in your Holy Spirit...
and Shatter the Corrupt World Order with your Passion.
Amen.

Seventy-Two

Today Lord in our world, our leaders can be lost so easily in hypocrisy that we ourselves are lost in. So easily trying to show the world that life with Christ is bliss with no pratfalls or struggles. We try to hide our journey, and our temptations so as not to blemish the "cross" we carry to the world, but in the very act of doing so Lord we destroy the cross itself because the burdens you promised we could turn over to you, we have internalized and attempted to carry ourselves.

Let us drop the walls of our super Christianity and be the humans that came to your Son, and accepted the wonderful gift of the Cross. In my own journey Lord help to teach me to be more open in my life and struggles, to show forth your glory.
Amen.

Seventy-Three

The stone has been rolled away
Mary stood there
Thinking you were someone else
The shroud laid out
Removing death from us eternally.
You called to her by name,
Upon hearing her name
Fall from your lips Lord.
She saw your glory
Felt your love for her.
Every day you call out to us Lord
In your Love,
Calling us by name.
Today, the day your Son ascends to be on your right.
The day the Holy Spirit is promised to us.
Let us hear the passion in your Son's voice for us,
As he calls us to you...
Bye name.
Let this love pour out of us Lord in our daily lives
To change our world for the better.

Seventy-Four

It is always darkest before the dawn. We feel the pain of almost failure, pain that is used to challenge us in our walk, challenge us to think that we have failed in our calling to you that you do not care for us. These are thoughts placed in our minds, in the battlefield for this world that can keep us frozen to our Pews. Lord be steadfast in us, let us feel the faith that Job had despite obstacles and blockades, that understanding that you loved him. Let us have the passion to raise our questions to you and know that you will answer. Give us the encouragement to pray knowing that they will reach your ears. Amen.

Seventy-Five

Joshua stood one of two remaining of a generation
His peers not trusting in you
Wandering till they vanished
True faith in you he stood
To claim the Promised Land

Like the Centurion who came to Christ
For his servant's healing
Knowing that Christ just had to speak
And it would be done

The power of your word to heal
Or rip asunder Lord,
Your scriptures tell us the stories...
Of the power of the word that became flesh.

Lord let us
Your humble people
Understand the power of our own words
To build believers and non-believers alike
Up
Or the ability to rip asunder
The fragile threads that hold a human together

Our words Lord
Let the dismissal from your service to the saints
Ring true in our hearts
And for our words in the coming week
To compliment our actions
For your glory
To be a friend, make a friend and bring a friend to Christ.
Ultreya

Seventy-Six

What's S-I-N?
It-the word
Narrow concept
Tool of oppression
Used by
Materially wealthy
And learned
To control
Oppress
The masses.

Fear of hellfire
Brimstone
Torture
Eternal damnation
Rigid legality
Humans as property

Women lesser
Abuse okayed
Beatings
Torture of children

God's name
Labeled
Used in slander
Encouragement
To:
GENOCIDES
HOLOCAUSTS

3 Little letters:
S-I-N
Spells
GOD
Man made in a box.

Break the box
Expose the lies
We are not evil
We are not fallen

God loves
God calls us
Very good.

Seventy-Seven

At Auschwitz, Pope Benedict XVI cries out "Lord why were you silent?" when it comes to the Holocaust. Yet Lord in our own hearts we need to ask, why were we silent? Why did we let the cries of the victims of Nazi Germany or Stalin's Soviets fall on deaf ears? The cries of the victims of countless Genocides since? Or closer to home, why do we not act with the cries of the abused child or spouse? Why do we remain silent when we know of our inhumanity to one another that fall short of your glory, your justice?

We plead and say, God will be with you or I'll pray for you. How many more must die? How much more innocent blood must be on our hands as Christ's body before we act as Christ does, with boldness and love for those who have no other voice for them?

Amen.

Seventy-Eight

Our faith is little
We do not believe that miracles
That you can do
We are blind to the good and evil
That exists in this world
Only seeing you Lord, when something does not go our way
You are our scapegoat, not our glorious creator.
Just like the disciples on the boat when the storms rose
We turn to you and say, "Calm them"
Only coming to you in times of tribulation..
With our empty promises and bartering
Yet you still call us beloved,
You still call us by name.
Lord let us in our feeble faith,
Be able to take this love to those around us
And to one another.
Let us be vessels of your love to the world at large. Amen.

Seventy-Nine

All things end. Tonight Lord I left up the organizations I have been called to step down from in leadership so that others may shine, Lord I ask you bless them and call those into these ministries that need the renewal of passion and dreams. Lord I pray for the church universal move us out of our seats, empower us with dreams like Joseph in Egypt or Paul and Peter as they set out on Missionary journeys. Show us the fields that we are blind to that need to be harvested, we know you are calling and that you will not force, yet bless us all with eyes that you have for your creation. Let us see this world with your love, with your heart.

Let us forget our human pettiness and get active in changing this world. Lord, tonight we pray that tomorrow as a new day dawns that you will be with us, that we will see with renewed love the world you have entrusted to us. Let tomorrow be a fresh beginning for all in heart, soul and mind.

Ultreya.

Eighty

Cool wind
Short skirts
Boys and girls
Turned out
For pleasure
Of adults

A woman shudders
As she spreads her legs
A boy spreads his cheeks
They take the penis in hand
Mouth

A needle in the arm
Veins poisoned
Simple
Short release
Alcohol pours

Gambling
Supports social programs
Addictions feed
Users of programs
Vicious circle
Solutions
Not abound.

Chaos.
Tricks for food
Tricks for electricity
Survival sex
False intimacy

Prey
Become
Predators
To make ends meet

Stress
Hearts give out
Lives cease

The cool breeze blows
She collapses
Convulsing

Another life
Thrown away

Another million
Pumped
Oil
In Alberta soil

Money in the bank
Wealthy
Wealthier
Poor
Poorer.

Life
Nothing more
Than
Dollars and cents.

Eighty-One

Depression
High cholesterol
Cancer
Like the rainbow
In the sky
Wake up calls
From God.
To renew
My image
Understanding
Journey
With the Sacred.
Shed negative
Relationships
Thoughts
Excess weight
Unhealthy choices
Embrace
Positive
Relationships
Lifestyle
Healthy choices

Discover my soul
Finally complete.

Eighty-Two

More powerful
Than us
Defeated by us.
The Cosmic Sacred
Within us.

Told to
Make converts
Evangelize
Christ the only way
To Heaven
God.
Paradise
Nirvana.

All Patriarchal
Lies.
Status Quo.

Oppression
Condemnation
Exploitation
Love God
How we tell you to.

God loves
ALL

She is
One river
Many wells
To drink deeply from.
Actions replace oppression
With the Queendom.
Respond to God's love:
Love God;
Love neighbour;
Love self;

Life in the now
Shatters the oppression
Freedom
Finale.

CONCLUSION

Dream no little dreams.

-Tommy Douglas

(First leader of the NDP & The Greatest Canadian)

Creation calls out in pain. In my province, the great promised land as the Klein Dictatorship coined us, Alberta, well water for farmers is mostly undrinkable; our province is being strip mined for our oil selling to the highest bidder for the smallest profit for Albertans.

Our ecology is poisoned. Has humanity caused global warming or climate change? No, archaeological records prove that our eco-system's climate is constantly changing, but (you knew there was going to be a but) it looks beyond a shadow of a doubt that we as a species have accelerated the process to dangerous levels.

Many world leaders both political and religious have pointed out that healing creation is not just a one trick pony. There are many things to look at to truly heal creation we need to address all social ills:

Poverty

Environmental Catastrophe

Violence

Hatred

Social issues

These are but a few to be named; look around there are many non-profits; non-governmental organizations and charities searching for excellent volunteers and staff to change our world for the better. As Mahatma Gandhi once said; be the change you want to see.

Thank you for reading my Cuppa with God it is time to have your own and find your true Calling to change the world.

Shalom & Namaste.

Bio Bit

Ty Ragan is a life long peace and human rights activist. In his activism he has had the pleasure of dialoguing, meeting and working with a wide array of world & community leaders. He has served as a lay minister within many denominations working with children, youth & young adults as well as in street ministry with Calgary's Mustard Seed & Inn from the Cold. His spiritual formation was crafted in the Franciscan Charism and his politics are socialist through and through (having run in the 2006 Federal Election in his home riding of Calgary Northeast where he has been a lifelong resident, finishing a respectable Third).

Back Cover Quotes:

"How do you get HOPE?"-Guest of the Mustard Seed Street Ministry

"These poems stem from Ty's long journey of unfocused youth to an inspiring spiritual leader in the community."

-Paul Vargis