

### Steps...

After a painstaking struggle Inside the womb Steps are stepping on Soft petals of infancy. Taking wings with the time It moves, moves and moves From off-spring to spry. Love lorn to love sick Walking with a cheerful step Within the mid way of life. It steps over the vicious thorns Sometimes over the Broken pavement steps. In wet spring and hot autumn It may reveal a sob story Amid the eight vicissitude May take in one's stride To reach the odyssey. After all Now is the time to depart. Steps are descending Towards the tomb. It marches up on hands In to the charnel house. Live steps go forward In a snail pace But leaving Fast and furiously By remaining a Silent criticism unspoken.

en. -Jayasiri Perera



### I read the message

Standing tall, He Looks deep at me, Direct in the eye, Hairy but most human like, Through the caged bars, Lending his hand in a plea, Almost like this hand of mine. Trying to Read That expression in his eye, What dwells deep within, It's hard to define. Rage, anger, despair, Stretching over a millennia, I cannot fathom, What lies deep in that vacant stare. Standing tall, As I look in his eyes, Finally the sparks burn bright. I read his message right. Inside that cage behind bars, He claims – the place is mine For the sin of egoistic hubris, The sin of caging cruelly in, Nature that is divine.

Nalaka Dassanayake



# And the Lord whispered to me

Do not cry my child; do not stain thy face, I am watching thee from above, all day thro' Guiding, protecting; no harm can come thy way 'Cos thou art my child, my precious child of love Who believe in me no matter how and why. Do not stray, do not find my love in another.

I know the pain in thy shattered, wounded heart Far from that smiling, laughing countenance. Do not cry; do not shed those tears in vain I shed them for thee long long ago. Think of my sacrifice, the pain upon the cross So do not give thy heart to another but me

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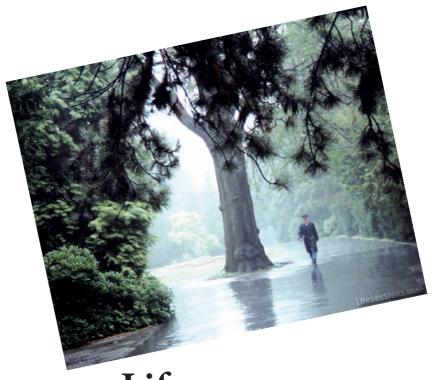
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I know how frail thou art; like a feather in the wind

I know how frail thou art; like a feather in the wind But I am there to hold thee 'les you fall and hurt. Rise, and be strong, I am there beside thee forever Run along the winding road stretched before thee, Towards its end, thou will fine me waiting with open arms Thou never found in the one thou adored on earth.

- 'Princess'

LYRICS FROM MY HEART ...

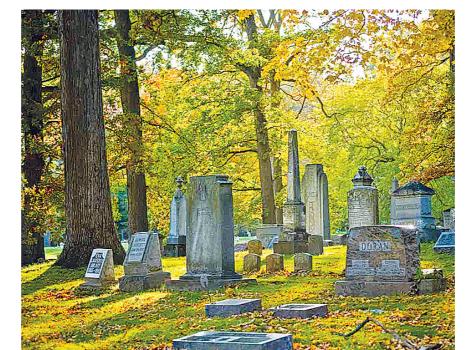


## Life goes on

Dragon flies Raindrops Poppies bloom Life goes on - Bertholamuze Nisansala Dharmasena

# The space in a space within

Thrusting into my hands A little of the never ending time, And a piece of boundless ether Into my feet, I am named as human. Amidst cries and tears by kiths and my kins Amidst funeral beatings In the color of afternoon Or suddenly In the color of a morning I am gone and my walls Are sealed And my coffin nailed. Still then I carry heavy loads of void dreams Arresting my soul in a small Room airless Playing with my usual toys Clay- made And journeying by false's shades. Journeying beyond time and space Depriving of all my identities crowned, I am out in a space within All beyond the edge of a grass All beyond the blade of a flower.



- Ponniah Ganeshan

#### The absent



Far from heart, You wished him far from eye If one was away, You knew his right was away

The absent are Always in the wrong He is guilty, Who is not at home

Mounds of blame Buried him in your heads Without a word From him to fend his soul

Even if he wished, Could he come to the fold Without killing The soul to wear your mould

Good news is
He won't return, he is free
Bad news is
The corpse in your head

-P. M. Fernando



## Oh wind, be away from rain!

Oh wind, be away from rain! Only today it starts Raining in leaps and bounds What is this! Oh! Wind! You drag the rain That is pouring so abundantly When all the wells Run dry And when we have hardly any Water to drink or bathe Why do you conspire like this By taking away The rain maid? Are you carrying her away Without any mercy? That is grave sin! This behaviour is not good For you as a servant Of God who is creator of nature Is it the quality of a good wind? If not for you We living beings Can not breath Freely But you abuse your power And obstruct us From drinking rain water By seizing the hands of The rain beauty To take her to a far off place So far we were patient Now we have lost patience So let us turn our eyes And hearts towards The creator of natural phenomena For justice in utilisation of Sufficient pure rain.

- M.Y.M Meeadh

