## The Lottery



I hope that you stop and reflect with these poems. They are meant to ponder over and to ask yourself some basic questions about life. I sincerely hope that they will trigger a longing inside to search for the diamond that exists inside of you.

I wish to offer my humble gratitude to my brother John. John did all the music for this CD I believe that poetry and music together can enhance the poetic experience. It adds an extra layer of emotion. Unfortunately, in America, poetry has taken a back seat in our culture. Let's bring back the power of the spoken word.

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## **Jockey For Position**

Well, the big primaries are over and Bush and Gore won.

Let's see how they will jockey for position.

Well, Gore has taken McCain's stand on Campaign reform.

Isn't it kind of funny how two weeks ago he didn't talk about it?

McClain had millions of supporters.

Hum, maybe I could grab some of those.

Campaign reform is my motto.

If the election were held today McLain would win.

Yet as for now, he's out of the running.

What an irony!

Has our politics become a spinning of words?

Do they really have true beliefs?

Nelson Mandella was a man of his word.

He was thrown in prison because of them.

He didn't spin the truth as our politicians do.

No wonder the Americans aren't voting.

Who can you trust?

A man will say one thing one moment, and the next moment say the exact opposite.

Where do they stand?

#### Television

I must admit I'm fascinated by television.

I'm fascinated by how it actually works.

Can you imagine a TV camera capturing life, and sending via satellite the images?

You ultimately pick up these images in real-time.

You can change the channel anytime you like.

It's up to you.

Yet whenever I think about it, I'm still fascinated by it.

These signals exist in the air.

If we don't turn the TV on and change the channel, the TV doesn't do anything to us.

People have taken TV for granted.

Now the wise man has said that the kingdom of God lies within.

Imagine if God is constantly sending us signals 24 hours a day.

The signals are there but how do we receive them?

We need an inner TV.

We were provided one when we were born.

It lies inside of us.

All we have to do is to dust it off.

Turn the TV on.

Change the channel.

You will then discover the mystery of life.

Maybe it seems too simple.

It is.

That's why we have never turned it on.

We perceive the truth to be difficult, not merely turning on the inner TV.

## Strength

What is the greatest strength? It's easy to lash out at others.

But how easy is it to hold on to yourself and refuse to participate in anger?

Is strength measured by brute force?

Brute force is not the answer.

Brute force is like a rock.

Powerful yes.

But inner strength is like water.

Over time it will dissolve the rock.

Man has relied on brute force for so long.

Maybe in this arena, Darwin's theory doesn't hold too well.

How far have we progressed?

Do we need our animal instinct?

Do we need to lash out and have wars?

Maybe we need to discover our true inner strength.

Man will be gentle yet strong.

He will drop his chains.

#### Thank You

For all those who have taught religious freedom.

Thank you

For all those who have strived for compassion.

Thank you

For all those who have strived for freedom for all.

Thank you

For all those who have been put in prison for their principles.

Thank you

For all those who have served their fellow man.

Thank you

For all those who have believed in peace

Thank you

For all those who have prayed for a better world.

Thank you

For all those who have helped another person.

Thank you

For all those who have saved someone.

Thank you.

For all those who have dedicated, their lives to humanity

Thank you

For all those who have lived their principals

Thank you

When a man discovers the mysteries of life, his love increases.

Love is not only bound between a man and a woman.

Love is the fabric of life.

Love holds the universe together.

Inside a quasar or a black hole lies love.

Love is the glue, which binds creation together.

Love keeps us alive.

Where ever you go love is there.

In a ghetto or midst of a war.

Love is everywhere.

A wise man perceives this as truth.

His antenna is aimed towards love.

He only knows love.

# Spring

Spring has sprung in the Sierras.

Flowers are coming out in bloom.

Deer are all around.

The sun is shining and the windows are open.

What a wonderful day!

#### Pokemon

My daughter loves to play Pokemon.

Good versus evil.

Do we all play Pokemon in our daily lives?

We size up our characters as good versus evil.

We all have monsters inside.

We need to harmonize the inside and outside of our life.

In this game, we must accept the good and the bad.

It's not easy playing the game of life.

Your business may be great, while your personal life may be in shambles.

How do we harmonize life?

We can't take a pill.

How do we change lifelong habits?

Can we change the course midstream?

We all have a boat and oars.

Sometimes it seems like we are in heavy rapids.

We are holding on for dear life.

How can we reach our destination?

How can we defeat our monsters within?

## Sweet Dreams

Sweet dreams my child.

It's time to go to sleep.

Sweet dreams my child.

May the angels be with you.

Sweet dreams my child.

Tomorrow brings another day.

Sweet dreams.

### Hello

Hello, my friend.

Do you remember me?

I'm your lost child within.

Listen to me.

Life is not grim.

We all need to remember our child within.

The child brings innocence to life.

It knows how to play.

When was the last time you smiled with life?

We are so busy with our affairs.

My work is my lifetime affair.

In the midst of life, we have forgotten.

The child lies within, waiting to be discovered again.

Embrace the child and life will bloom.

### DNA

All cells contain DNA.

Are we programmed for life?

Does life deal us cards that we can't change?

Can man change his DNA?

Can we reprogram life?

Should we even ask the question?

Can the power of thought change DNA?

Does this mean a man can truly change his own life?

What if a man truly knew his destiny?

## Freedom

If you were king of the universe would you be free?

If you owned all the riches in the world would you be free?

If you were the ruler of the world would you be free?

If you were a pop star would you be free?

If you were a movie star would you be free?

The wise man says's freedom lies within.

## The Lottery

Everyone thinks that if I won a million dollars I would be happy.

Do you know that most people who win the lottery are broke 10 years later?

How can that be?

Do we spend, spend as if there is no tomorrow?

The truly rich know how to save and invest.

If a man spends but does not invest eventually he will be broken.

Are there financial laws we must understand?

The wise man invests in his future.

A poor man over time can become a rich man.

## The Raid

They came early in the morning while Elanian was still asleep.

They broke down the door and took him away.

Within a short time, he was with his father.

Did they have to use violence to free him?

Unfortunately, the Gonzalez didn't heed the law.

Reno had no choice but to order the INS to take him away.

What a media circus this has been!

How can Elanian survive so much tragedy?

#### Where Were You?

Where were you when Kennedy was assassinated?
Where were you when the stock market crashed?
Where were you when the Berlin wall came tumbling down?
Where were you when Russia fell to its knees?
Where were you when the Vietnam War ended?
Where were you during the Iran-Contra hearings?
Where were you during Watergate?
Where were you the day Regan got shot?
Where were you during Desert Storm?
Where were you during Watergate?
Each of these moments lies inside of us all.
Let's learn lessons from the past.

A newborn baby has so much joy.

A child loves this world.

For him, this world is a playground.

How curious is a child?

Every moment a child is in delight.

If he is sad it soon vanishes like the night.

As we get older our joy silently sleeps away.

During our twenties, thirties, and forties we ponder for the buck.

But we have forgotten the sweetness of life.

Realize that life is incredible.

We are merely going through the motions as if we are drunk.

Life has so much to offer if we stop and listen.

The rhythm of life is beating in our souls.

Stop and listen.

Your joy is there waiting for you.

# Simplicity

Why is it a poor man strives to be rich?

While a truly rich man strives to be simple?

Simplicity allows a man to see the forest for the trees.

It allows a man to truly enjoy this life.

Our world is so complicated.

We have forgotten.

Simplicity leads a man to freedom.

Each moment is precious.

He does not live for the weekend.

A beautiful sunrise is all he needs.

The songs of nature fill the air.

A simple man lives in peace.

He is truly a wise man.

#### God Talks And Listens

Most people pray to God and beg for an answer.

We think that God can't talk as if he is mute.

Yet if God is everywhere and lies inside of us all, don't you think he can respond?

Maybe we just need to listen.

Religion has taught us to pray but has it taught you how to listen to God?

Do we just have one-way communication with God?

Surely Christ had a two-way communication.

We most certainly do.

Maybe if we all listened our world would change.

#### Memories

Life contains such sweet memories.

Remember when you were young?

A birthday was a day to remember.

Blowing out the candles and eating the cake.

Love was all around.

Do you remember the freedom of the last day of school?

Summer is here.

I'm off to the beach.

Christmas always floods me with memories.

The entire family is together.

Spirit floods the air.

Surfing on Christmas day.

I remember visiting my Grandmother.

She was such a beautiful Granny.

Memories

Sweet Memories.

## The Day The World Changed

I remember a day in my life that changed my life forever.

It was the day of my graduation from high school.

Something inside of me knew that I graduated and know my life was about to change forever.

My childhood was like a cocoon.

I was protected.

I had my family and friends.

I lived in the same house throughout my school years.

Yet I knew that I was about to embark on a journey that would last a lifetime.

All of my friends would soon be scattered across the US.

I knew that when I left that day a major chapter has ended.

My security was taken away.

I had to find my true home wherever I went.

Home is a state of mind.

I said goodbye to my friends and traveled around the world.

My life has never been the same since.

#### India

India was a land of self-discovery for me.

I saw the good, bad and ugly.

Yet I saw the beauty of life.

I saw the beauty of the beggar.

I saw the rhythm of life.

I saw that money couldn't buy happiness.

I realized that knowledge lies within.

I didn't have to go to India to find this.

Yet in India, it was so pronounced.

In the west, we all live like kings and don't know it.

We are so spoiled.

In India, most are just trying to survive.

For thousands of years, India was a land of self-knowledge.

True knowledge lives inside a man.

India showed the world the way.

I learned about performing all actions in love.

Granted I am not there but I strive for it.

India taught me to appreciate life.

It taught me the riddle of life.

#### **Trains**

Ever since I moved back from Hawaii, I have spent time on trains.

Twice a week I board the train.

I guess I love the train.

I don't have to drive.

I can leave during rush hour and never have to worry about the traffic.

I love watching the scenery.

At times it reminds me of Africa.

On board, I can write poetry or spend some time working.

I have met some incredible people.

I love the sound of the train whistling.

It reminds me of my Grandmother.

My brother and I would spend the night at her house, and the train would whistle bye.

When I was young, my family would take trains all over Europe.

I remember the incredible time we had.

Eating French bread, with tubed mustard, salami, cheese, and tomatoes.

There was a time some Europeans give us a treat.

It was candy laced with alcohol.

It was horrible.

Yet we didn't show it to our guests.

They thought it tasted wonderful.

Trains are wonderful.

## Homeward Bound

I'm going home to my beloved.

I've been away far too long.

I had incredible adventures yet it's time to start heading home.

I can hardly wait to sleep on my bed with my beloved in my arms,

Each day I'm getting closer.

Home.

# Rainy Day

It's a rainy day and I'm on the bus.

How beautiful is the rain?

I love the sound of the pithier patter of the rain.

Raindrops explode on the windshield.

The driver gets hypnotized by the windshield wipers.

How soothing is the rain?

Nature drinks it all in, while humans complain.

The trees appear to be a brighter green.

The air truly is fresh.

My mind is totally relaxed

#### We Can Work It Out

Life can seem to tear people apart.

We live in a world where relationships are like a six-pack of coke.

When you finish one bottle of coke, there are five more left.

If you don't like your marriage, there are more bottles to drink.

But a relationship should be like wine.

Wine improves with age.

We seem to have the idea that happy ever after means no troubles.

If I meet the prince then I shall be happy forever.

When we see through Prince Charming or our Princesses we think maybe I made the wrong choice.

Nobody can fulfill your dreams except for you.

Relationships are a way to learn more about yourself, the other person, and life.

The key to relationships is awareness.

Everything will be better in the end.

We can work it out.

# Let The Light Shine

There's a place deep within your heart.

Deeper than you could ever imagine.

When the door is opened your life will be transformed.

Let the light shine within your heart.

Shine the light on everyone.

Shine the light for eternity.

The rays of love will cross the sea.

Mankind is yearning for the light, yet he doesn't know it.

This light will set man free.

## Is There Another Way?

Have you ever asked if is there another way to live?

Are we trapped in our nine-to-five existence?

Cell phone in hand, driving down the freeway of life.

Honking at your fellow man.

Weaving in and out of traffic.

I'm in a hurry.

You're slowing me down.

Waves of insults and slurs come to your mind.

No wonder there is so much cancer in our land.

Our bodies and mind are constantly on the go.

Are you truly happy?

There's got to be a better way to live.

There is a way.

Unfortunately, most people just go on day after day.

They never question themselves.

#### It's Never Too Late

It's never too late to change your life.

It's never too late to send your wife flowers.

It's never too late to play with your kids.

It's never too late to travel.

It's never too late to say you're sorry.

It's never too late to spend time with your family.

It's never too late to heal your relationships.

It's never too late to decide what's most important besides your job.

It's never too late to relax.

It's never too late to pray.

It's never too late to help your fellow man.

It's never too late to be happy.

It's never too late to have compassion.

It's never too late to live in peace.

#### Give Peace A Chance

Why do we think that war is the answer?

Have we ever solved our problems by fighting?

What is it that we want to annihilate someone differently?

As kids, we ridicule and make fun of kids who don't fit in.

A child who is a cripple is made fun of.

Yet who is the cripple?

Why do you judge someone different than you?

What are you afraid of?

I can't be seen with someone who is fat.

What a judgment!

I can't date a Jew.

We are all flowers on the garland of life.

We belong to one family.

Whether you like it or not there is a thread tying us all together.

Maybe it's time you get off of your immaturity and act like a human being should?

Give peace a chance.

#### Quacks

Why do people think environmentalists are quacks?

Isn't saving the planet a good thing?

Yet most people can't see the forest for the trees.

Why will those people take away our jobs?

Well while not creating new ones?

In each era in mankind's history jobs come and go.

New jobs get created.

Yet we hold on for dear life and call people quacks if we don't agree with them.

We believe that we can't paint a different picture- even if it's wrong.

We have only 3% of the forest left.

Is Kmart going to save this planet?

Our father should sue humanity.

What have you done to this planet?

If God ever came back, we would call him a quack.

He goes all against the rules.

# The Empty Lot

There's an empty lot on the corner.

With broken glass on the ground.

An old automobile is rusting on the ground.

Yet in the midst of man's trash beauty is all around.

Lovely spring flowers are growing on the ground.

All colors of the rainbows are shown by the flowers.

Nobody had to plant seeds.

But nature plants itself and heals the empty lot.

#### One Mans Food Is Another Man's Poison

I have a friend of mine named Vince.

Vince is extremely allergic to peanuts.

In fact, he could die if he ate a peanut.

How it is that one man's food is another man's poison?

Some of my friends can't eat a single strawberry.

Yet I love Strawberry pie.

Each of us is truly different and unique.

There is no single food that we can all eat.

When it comes to food, the only thing we have in common is that we all eat.

# Hello Hello

Hello Hello.

How are you today?

The sun is shining.

Today is a wonderful day.

Play like a child.

Open up to the beauty of life.

Hello Hello

#### Where Do Poems Come From?

Where do poems come from?

From hidden portions of the mind.

Poems come out of nowhere and are released on paper never to return.

The poems are thought-provoking.

From the pen, creation comes forth.

Only the poet truly understands his work.

Waiting

Ever so silent.

Suddenly words wisp silently by.

Each moment the words increase and get louder than silence.

The poem is finished.

#### Listen

Sit still and listen.

Can you hear the sounds of nature?
Can you hear the whispering of the wind?
Can you hear the waves breaking on the shore?
Can you hear the birds chirping?
Can you hear children laughing in the wind?
Can you hear the rain?
Nature is talking to us.
Maybe it's about time we listen.

# Today

Today a new galaxy was created.

A supernova occurred.

The sun had a violent eruption.

A black hole created a new universe.

Where were you stuck in rush hour traffic?

# What Do You Truly Want?

What do you truly want?

What will truly satisfy you?

It can't be anything material because someday it will vanish like the wind.

And so will you.

What is, will and will always be?

If you know the answer, you will know what you truly want.

## Voices Of The Wind

Have you ever heard the voices of the wind?

Calling you by name.

They are trying to remind you of your true home.

Where are your dreams?

Where did they go?

Is life a mystery?

Or

Is life a 9 to 5 existence?

Listen to the voices in the wind.

The universe is calling.

# The Passages Of Time

Beyond time what remains?

Man is lost and thinks he is found.

Has man always been in this state?

How evolved are we?

## Two Weeks In San Francisco

I'm going home to my family.

It seems like a long time ago.

I've been away for two weeks.

It's time to go home and recuperate.

The road is nice, but there's no place like home.

My body is tired and I need to relax.

There's no place like home.

## Chop Down The Trees

I read in the paper just the other day, that

A whole grove of redwoods will be chopped down.

The owner says give me two million dollars and I'll save those trees.

Who really is the owner of the land?

We think we own the world's resources.

Can we really barter this earth to the highest bidder?

You can buy this planet for a trillion dollars.

Where will we go?

That's your problem, not mine.

I'm rich and bygone I'll take what I want.

Have we progressed at all?

## Delicate Balance

Life is a delicate balance.

In a moment we can be swept away.

A knife is above our head, held by a single thread.

We think that we are immune to the dangers of life.

That will never happen to me.

Yet every day people come and go on this earth.

What a miracle to be alive.

The word is keeping the universe alive.

## Hey You

Hey, you walking down the street!

Do you know that you are special?

Hey, you walking down the street!

Do you know the secret of life?

Hey, you walking down the street!

There's a diamond inside of you.

Hey, you walking down the street!

What a miracle you are alive!

Hey, you walking down the street!

Money won't buy you happiness.

Hey, you walking down the street!

Love your fellow man.

Hey, you walking down the street!

Respect your fellow man.

Hey, you walking down the street!

Welcome to the journey.

## What Can You Say?

What can you say?

What can you do?

The lord lives inside of you.

Hidden behind your breath.

Lies the fountain.

He does not need any recognition.

The water of life is free.

It tastes so sweet.

Yet for the majority, it remains a secret.

It was never intended to be that way.

We have fallen asleep.

Now is the time to awaken.

You will never disbelieve.

The secret of life is open.

We have just looked the other way.

## What Are You Trying To Say?

Many people say, "What are you trying to say?"

Come out with it.

Show me.

I don't get it.

That can't be true.

You don't know what you are talking about.

What rubbish?

It doesn't say that in my book.

Only my teacher can help me.

That can't be true.

If I can't see it, it can't exist.

My father never taught me that.

I belong to this religious group-

Therefore I can't believe or experience outside of my box.

To understand this riddle just look inside.

## Follow The Tracks

If you follow the railroad tracks

You will eventually get to your destination.

Hot and sweaty you will be.

Maybe it will snow or you will get wet.

The wise man buys a ticket on the train.

He also has an incredible journey watching the sights,

Man has a choice to follow the tracks or

To board the train.

Either way, someday you will reach your true home.

## What is a desert?

A desert has no trees.

There is no shade.

Once upon a time, all deserts were forests.

Man chopped down the trees.

Upon a time a desert was developed.

Who helped to contribute to this?

Has man learned his lesson?

I don't think so.

#### Give Me A Break

Thank God it's Friday.

We all need a break from our daily routine.

Where can we escape?

Where can we go?

Drinking will bring us a hangover by morning.

What truly gives us a break?

What truly gives us freedom?

Do you know what you are talking about?

How can we be at ease?

In this state, there is no disease.

The body and mind are in harmony.

## Rubbish

Traveling on a train I see so much beauty.

Flowers trees and flat lands.

Yet man throws his rubbish on the ground.

Junk cars are everywhere.

Trash is spewed everywhere.

We are throwing trash in our living rooms.

How smart must we be?

## Open Minded

I think I'm open-minded.

I yearn to see the forest for the trees.

It's wise to walk in the other man's footsteps.

You then can see his point of view.

What you think may not be true.

What may be in your eyes a falsehood may be the truth.

What you may consider truth may be a falsehood.

Being open means being open.

It is much more than mere words.

An open mind can take you places.

The world does not like an open mind.

How can we control you?

#### Survivors

Now from CBS television comes Survivors the ultimate game show.

Come and watch 16 people get booted off an island.

We can hardly wait to see who's next.

Will it be our hero or enemy?

Watch the next episode.

Millions come and watch each week.

There is better than the gladiators in the coliseum.

Thank you, CBS for bringing such a wholesome show.

What other decadent show can you put on?

Live from New York a young man's first date.

Is TV a reflection of our values?

In the fifties, TV had so much innocence.

Slowly it began to be a real-life drama.

Are we really interested in violence?

We pay money for our cable.

Wow did you see that show last night?

His head was blown apart.

Yet

If your head were blown apart it would be a tragedy.

Yet we love to watch it anyway.

I need to escape from life.

Yet

Life is very profound.

You don't need to escape from it.

You need to embrace it.

# Please Pull Over To The Right

When you first learned how to drive, you learned to pull over to the right when an The emergency vehicle comes by.

How selfish we are when we refuse to do so?

I'm in a hurry.

You are going to have to wait.

Yet if the ambulance was going for us we would be furious.

Remember someday it may be you.

Respect your fellow man.

#### Rules

Rules can be broken.

Not all rules are good.

Not all rules are bad.

Roles can control people.

Rules can help people.

Rules can be unjust

Rules can help society.

Rules can be a detriment to society.

Rules can be partial to a group.

Rules can be dictated to a group.

Rules can educate.

Rules can give us freedom.

Rules can take away our freedom.

Only we can decide our rules.

#### Freedom

A man thinks if I had a million dollars I would be free.

Yet a millionaire is a slave to his money.

Where can I protect it?

A man thinks that if he owned the world he would be free.

Yet some of it will be taken away.

A man thinks if I could only travel.

But it can be a lonely road.

What is freedom?

Can it be achieved?

Can we live this life and be free?

The first step is to ask the question.

What is freedom?

## Water

Water is the key to life.

Without water, this planet would be barren.

When you are thirsty only water can quench it.

Water is more precious than gold

Yet we are sawing off our own limbs.

Our water is getting polluted so we can make a buck.

Where would we be if we didn't have water to drink?

Man says you are a goon.

There is no problem.

Yet we are blind and don't see.

#### Glasses

Glasses can be helpful to make you see.

At times it can make you tainted.

I can only see blue because my glasses are blue.

Therefore the world is blue.

Yet the world contains all colors.

It contains colors that even you can't see.

Don't think that I can see everything.

97 percent is filtered by the brain.

We refuse to see the world as it truly is.

# Good Bye

Goodbye my friend
Go on your journey.
Remember you are never alone.

# Today Is Another Opportunity

Today is another opportunity to say, "I love you" to your family.

Today is another opportunity to play with your kids.

Today all of your dreams may come true.

Today is an incredible day.

Today is the first day of your life.

Today is the opportunity to heal yourself.

Today is an opportunity to forgive others.

Today is the day to show compassion for others.

Today is the day to bring peace to the world.

Today is the day to discover, the secret of life.

Today the sun is shining.

Today is another opportunity.