

Travels



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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## Prisons

We put a man in prison expecting him to turn out better than he was coming in.

Yet you are the company that you keep.

Most of the people in prisons are there for drugs.

Is there a better way out?

Do we truly educate our people?

Do we truly reform?

Is there a better way to treat prisoners?

Are drug abusers criminals or do they have a social problem?

Drugs are addicting.

Man needs love and compassion.

We are all living in our prisons.

There must be a better way out.

If a man holds the diamond within, he is precious.

Let's treat our fellow man with dignity.

## Man is living

Man is living in a prison.

He is living in the prison of his mind.

He thinks that he is better than one other.

I'll show you who is better.

A war begins.

Man is not very tolerant.

My race is the only race.

My religion is better than yours.

God governs my country.

Your country is governed by the devil.

How narrow thinking?

We put ourselves in boxes.

We are prisoners of our own design.

God did not place us in our prisons.

We did.

Look beyond your beliefs.

Look beyond your ideas of what is truth.

Be open to the universe.

Everyone has a truth to tell.

Listen to both sides of the story.

They're both talking about the same thing.

Walk in the other person's shoes.

They will fit.

Open your prison's wall.

Tear them down.

You will become free.

## Tornado in Georgia

Yesterday there was a tornado in Georgia.

Imagine two square miles being flattened.

Devastation everywhere.

Fortunately, the Red Cross came in.

Can you imagine your house blown down and your wife being blown away?

Everything you have worked for is gone.

Except for the human spirit.

Fortunately, the kindness of man comes out.

We help each other in need.

From disaster, mans cooperates.

The community comes together.

May God bless you to get your community together.



## Surfer Lost At Sea

Yesterday a surfer was lost at sea.

He was trying to paddle in.

The waves were huge and it was very windy.

This was just before dark.

Three other surfers called the coast guard.

Unfortunately, by then it was dark.

This morning the coast guard will be out.

Hold on my friend, help is on the way.

Don't try to paddle in.

Regain your strength

Try to be calm.

May God be with you?

We are.

## The Rip Off Artist

Can you imagine the life of a rip-off artist?

How sad a life he must live!

He takes advantage of the weak.

He takes advantage of the rich or poor.

He takes advantage of the elderly.

He thinks money can buy happiness.

His life is based on corruption.

He stalks his prey.

Animals are better.

They kill for food.

## Amnesty

Stand up for your human rights?

The world needs decency.

We need governments to support human rights.

Fortunately, there are organizations, which strive for human rights for all.

We must support them.

This is our basic human right.

Many governments are built on tyranny.

The people have no rights.

Let's support human rights.

It's up to each one of us to change.

Stand up.

Stand up for your human rights.

## Look In The Mirror

Look in the mirror.

What do you see?

Have you forgotten who you are?

Where has your love gone?

Why are you so angry?

Do you still hold on to your dreams?

The mirror reflects our life.

How does one change?

First, look in the mirror.

When was the last time we looked at ourselves?

We must first know that we want to change.

That's the first step.

## There Is Light On The Other Side Of The Tunnel

There is light on the other side of the tunnel.

It's not a freight train either.

As they say, all things must pass.

No matter what your problems are, they will fade away.

The sun is always shining.

From darkness comes the light.

Nothing in this world lasts forever.

## My High School Poetry Teacher

When I was in high school, I took poetry.

I had an incredible teacher.

She inspired me.

We read from many different poets.

I learned about the power of words.

The poem reflects human life.

His soul is on fire.

Life is passionate.

The poet's words have meanings.

The poet teaches us how to listen.

The poet says we are all poets.

We have simply forgotten.

We speak at a surface level.

Throughout time the poets have been here.

They reflect our needs.

## Hate Crimes

Hate crimes are not the answer.

The hate exists inside of you.

This world was created to be diverse.

You are wearing blinders.

Love your fellow man.

Be tolerant.

Remove the thorn of hate in your heart.

You will see that all man is equal.

We all have a right to be.

## People

People are different yet we are all the same.

People want peace on earth.

We want a better life for all.

People want freedom and equality for all.

People want everyone to be able to live with decency.

We want the world not to be hungry.

People are compassionate.

We believe in being tolerant.

People believe in God, each in their different ways.

People can change.

We all believe in a better life.



## Designer Drugs

Why do people use designer drugs?

Do you like to play Russian roulette?

Are drugs a way to escape life temporarily?

Unfortunately in the club scene, they are a rage.

I saw in the news how a young pretty woman lost her life, taking this drug.

How sad!

Everybody suffers.

You can never bring back her life.

This life is precious.

Realize the drug inside.

This drug is pure and has no side effects.

It will show you the key to life.

## What's Up In The News Today?

What's up in the news today?

Do we mostly read about the negative in this world?

Does the media thrive on delivering bad news?

Shouldn't there be a balance between good news and bad?

Do people think reporting good news is not part of a newspaper's life?

I need a good story means; I need a story that will show some sort of corruption.

Have we lost our way?

Do we thrive on negativity?

Are we so conditioned that this is the only news?

Does the media truly reflect the world news?

## The Gift

There is a gift that each one of us has.

Unfortunately, we have never opened it.

We go through this human life, never knowing the secret of life.

Each of us has the same gift, yet it goes unopened.

This gift is priceless.

It can't be bought or sold.

It can't be traded in.

This gift lies inside of you.

Open up your gift.

Your life will be transformed.

## Today

Today is the beginning of my life.

Today is the opportunity to show compassion.

Today I can play with my kids.

Today I can be tolerant of others.

Today I can love my life.

Today I can rejoice that I'm alive.

Today I can do my part to bring peace to the world.

Today I can pray for unity.

Today I can help someone in need.

Today I can give food to a beggar.

Today I can trust a stranger.

Today I can appreciate the diversity of man.

Today I love all of the world's religions.

Today I walk one step closer to my goal.

Today I throw down all of my weapons.

Today I embrace nonviolence.

Today is the beginning of my life.

## How Much Do Your Problems Weigh?

Do you feel that your problems are weighing you down?

Do you feel that life is a burden?

Is your life overwhelmed?

There is a way to let go of all your excess baggage.

Life is not heavy.

We are.

We hold on to our problems.

We don't know how to let them go.

By knowing life we can be set free.

Remove the chains that bind you.

You were meant to be free.

## Crown Of Creation

If a man is the crown of creation, does that make him king?

If he is, we must be a tyrant.

Man is supposed to be a guardian of nature.

How many animals have been extinct because of man?

We are custodians of this world.

Yet we are sawing off the branch we are sitting on.

We laugh at environmentalists.

We call them quacks or nature lovers.

They represent a lack of business.

Why should we save that redwood tree?

It's been here for over two thousand years.

Can you imagine this tree was alive when Christ was born?

Yet we plan to turn this into a house.

We need true discrimination.

We need a master plan.

This earth is our home.

We must stop polluting it.

How would you like a garbage dump in your backyard?

## Anthrax

Why should our soldiers have to take Anthrax?

There are side effects.

If you don't take it you are forced to retire and leave.

Our government says that it has no side effects.

No side effects mean no side effects.

They said the same thing about Agent Orange.

It had no side effects.

Yet thousands of soldiers and their newborn babies were affected.

Our government needs to tell the truth.

They can't shoot from the hip.

Thousands of soldiers are being affected.

## Round Two

I saw another round of boxing in the political arena today.

Both sides were doing the battles of words.

You did this to me.

Well, you did this to me.

You are a liar.

Well, you are a liar.

You would not make a good president.

Well, you would not make a good president.

It sounds like immature people fighting.

Do we want these jokers to be president?

Let's hear about the real issues.



## Campaign Reform

I'm glad to hear one candidate talk about campaign reform.

He wants to restrict the use of lobbyists.

He wants to restrict the amount of money they can contribute to a candidate.

Both the republicans and democrats oppose this.

This is their power base.

If you take that away, what is left is the people.

This scares them to death.

This is supposed to be a government for the people, by the people.

Well at times it's more like for the business, by the business.

Do politicians really care for the common man?

I believe we need a political reform.

## Strip News

The Soviets have a new way of delivering the news today.

As the newscaster delivers the news she begins to unbutton her blouse.

Throughout her news stores, she slowly bares her bosom.

Well, I guess we now have both the news and entertainment in one shot.

You can learn about the latest military event with a striptease newscaster.

Where are we going?

What's next Tom Brokaw?

## Where Are We Heading?

Where are we heading my friend?

Is this world going down the tubes?

I don't want to be an alarmist but are we going astray?

Today I talked to my wife about what Oprah discussed today.

It seems that middle school kids are making love today.

They are performing mass orgies.

The kids say their parents have no time for them.

These kids come from all backgrounds of life.

Rich and poor.

Educated and illiterate.

One and two-headed families.

Where are our values?

In the midst of our life have we forsaken our young?

I believe in values.

Am I old-fashioned?

I'm extremely liberal in some areas of life, yet I'm extremely conservative in others.

Maybe it makes me sad how misguiding our youth is.

Our teachers hardly make a decent living.

Pop stars and athletes are making a killing.

We are considered the crown of creation yet we drink our life away.

Do we have to struggle?

Let's all ask ourselves the question 'What is the purpose of this life?'

## Dreams Do Come True

Dreams do come true.

Do you know that dreams are like a seed?

All dreams will come true.

Imagine Da Vinci imagining the helicopter or submarine.

It took about 600 years for his dreams to be realized.

Man has dreamed about peace on earth for thousands of years.

The seed is planted in man's heart.

Someday this dream will come true.

Mankind has gone through a lot of turmoil.

Throughout the ages, this tiny dream has been kept alive.

Through the dark ages, though the holy wars (not very holy) man has kept the flame alive.

This dream survived the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Our world went through two global wars.

In the midst humans still, dream about peace on earth.

We hold the flame alive.

We still have faith in mankind.

It doesn't matter if we are a Christian, a Hindu, a Moslem, or a Jain

We all want peace on earth.

Who would have imagined the changes in the past ten years?

The Berlin wall came tumbling down.

The Soviet Union.

Many incredible events.

The world is changing.

Dreams do come true.

Let's cause a forest fire that can be seen by this world.

## Has Politics Gone Astray?

Has politics gone astray?

I've been following the presidential race today.

It seems there has been a lot of mud-throwing today.

Both the democrats and republicans are calling each other liars.

Let me drag you into the mud and show the world you're a liar.

Maybe then will people cast their vote?

People are smart.

They know what's going on?

Big business is leading the way.

Do we live in a true democracy?

I don't believe so.

Why is it that we allow money to buy votes?

Special interest groups cast laws in stone.

Time magazine just ran a big story on it today.

In a few days, the story will be forgotten.

Big business and Politics will go on their way.

Isn't it a duty for a politician to serve the people?

Yet the modern-day politician is more interested in his own pursuit of power.

The polls say that voters are not coming out.

I wonder why?

You can't fool man.

At times I think a kindergartner is more mature than our politicians.

Don't get me wrong not all politicians act this way.

But the aura is there never less.

We live in an era where we can spin the truth.

We are spinning democracy into the grave.

At times I get so angry when they say the American people.

Washington is rising in his grave.

Our politicians have raped our social security fund.

We give lip service to the environment.

The average American has no say.

Big business is first-class citizens.

We have apartheid here in America.

It's more hidden and behind the scenes.

Politicians and big businesses are sleeping in the same bed together.

We proclaim 'My fellow Americans' yet we really don't care.

And you wonder why people don't vote?

Are you aware at all?

Do you think people can't see you naked?

Has politics gone astray?

## Martin Luther King

When I was just a kid I heard about Martin Luther King.

I was white and he was black.

Unfortunately, when I was a child nobody really taught me what was going on.

I wasn't prejudiced yet I didn't know about people's plight in our country.

As I got older I read about his life.

He believed in non-violence.

Isn't it amazing how backward we are?

We say we believe in freedom for all, yet Martin died in the struggle.

His dream lives on.

He did not die in vain.

People all around the world carry his dream.

Whether a man is black or white the dream lives on.

I have a dream.

His dream exists inside of you and me.

Thank you, Martin Luther King.



## The Boy From Cuba

How sad that two countries play politics over a small boy, whose mom was lost at sea.

Two fishermen saved him.

His father is in Cuba.

His grandmothers came over to see him.

Yet politics win over.

Shouldn't his father decide?

His father wants him back.

Set aside what has happened between the U.S. and Cuba.

A boy's life is at stake.

Why can't the U.S. and Cuba both cooperate?

Let's bring the boy and father together.

Let's drop the politics and name-calling.

A father and son should be together.

Let's have the boy's true interest at heart.

Forget about your political position.

I know it's hard.

## Vietnam

Many people's first-time impressions of Vietnam came from their restaurants.

How grand is their cuisine?

Yet when I was a child a war erupted.

Nobody in America really knew what it was really about.

Yet our young died by the thousands.

They were innocent.

To this day the Vietnam veteran will not say.

He came home and was not honored.

Fortunately, years later a memorial was made in his honor.

I remember walking to the memorial in Washington DC.

I was on business.

The memorial reflected so many honors.

Our young children died.

For what reason?

These young boys served their country.

Did we really serve them?

Shouldn't we really think when 50,000 died?

America I love you.

Let's keep the flame alive.

## The Christ

Two thousand years ago walked the Christ.

He was a fisherman.

His gift was his life, which he gave freely to man.

He loved everyone.

He was a man who practiced turning the other cheek, even on the cross.

He was a carpenter for man.

He inspired us, love us yelled at us, and taught us.

His love was boundless.

It was unconditional.

He told us that we could love and be selfless just like him.

He told us that our father lies within.

He was humble.

He was outrageous.

Jesus the Christ was his name.

Born in a manger.

His story will live on forever.

May he always live in our hearts.

Lord, let me be an instrument of your peace.

Allow me to realize that you live inside of me.

Heavenly Father please take us home.



## I Want My MTV

Music can be comforting to the soul.

Music can teach us.

Music can capture us.

Music can inspire us.

Music can create hope within us.

Music can help lead man.

Music can help us to love our fellow man.

Music can help man from his depression.

Music can show us the way out of this Maya.

Music can bring tears of happiness to our eyes.

Music can remind us what a miracle I'm alive.

Music is a gift from God.

Where would we be without music?

## TV Mogul

Hi, I'm your TV Mogul.

I am interested in making a lot of money.

Boy, do I have some great stories to tell?

I got some great Soaps to dish out.

Sex and Violence are the names of the game.

Why do I believe in the first amendment?

Freedom of speech.

Why can you order x-rated videos from your TV?

Sex is what sells.

I don't want my child to watch such trash but yours, it's up to your discretion.

I'm not interested in the arts or culture.

Sex sells.

It brings me home the bacon.

Regulations are for the birds.

I want to be free and live in the gutter.

At least I can make what I want.

Isn't this what you want?

Isn't your life for the better?

You can watch anything you want on TV.

Hey, give me that changer.?

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## Flowers

Flowers are nature's way of saying 'I love you.

From a small seed comes a beautiful flower.

Can you imagine the force when a flower blooms?

We give flowers at celebrations.

We give flowers to our lovers.

We put flowers on our loved one's graves.

We give flowers to someone who is sick.

We give flowers as gifts.

We use flowers in our wedding ceremonies.

We have flowers in our office.

We have flowers in our house.

We plant flowers in our backyard.

There are so many different types of flowers.

Flowers give us hope.

Flowers help us get well.

Flowers unite two lovers.

Flowers put a smile on our faces.

Flowers help us to overcome the death of a loved one.



## The Rose

Is life like a rose?

We feel the beauty of life and the thorns cause us so much pain.

Do the thorns have a purpose?

Do pleasure and pain lead to something else?

How can we know pleasure if we never experienced pain?

How can we know pain if we never experienced pleasure?

Does the Rose represent man's quest to find the inner truth?

As all roads lead to God, all experiences lead eventually to God.

Does the rose encapsulate the experience of life?

The soul has seen the good, bad and ugly.

Yet the rose is beautiful.

Life is beautiful.

Humans are beautiful.

We are the roses.

May we bloom forever?

The Rose

## The Prophet

Isn't it strange that most prophets are never accepted in the country they were born?

Christ was born in Israel.

Buddha was born in India.

How many Buddhists are in India?

Less than 2 percent.

How many Christians are in the holy land?

Not very many.

What is it that man refuses to listen to his own, yet he will listen to someone foreign?

Imagine after the Buddha became enlightened.

He walked the streets of India.

Yet hardly anyone came.

He was a great man of compassion.

He was compassionate.

During his time he could impart the key to life.

Today there are millions of Buddhists.

Just not in India,

The Christ was a fisherman among man.

He showed us how to live.

We are all children of God.

His love was endless.

He did not judge.

Yet unfortunately, he died on the cross.

Today there are millions of Christians.

Just not in Israel.

A prophet is not accepted in his own country.

What does it say about us?

What would happen if Christ or Buddha were reborn in America?

Would we have done the same?

I'm sorry Christ but you are an American.

The real Christ was born in Israel.

Where is your donkey?

Is man unwilling to accept his fellow man as the Son of God?

I think we are all sons and daughters of God.

The wise man will attempt to solve this puzzle.

## The Prayer

Our father who is the in the past, present, and future.

Who is everywhere?

From the Lord God of my being.

From the Lord God of my Soul.

Please deliver me to be a representative of yourself.

I'm striving to be compassionate.

I'm striving to be non-judgmental.

I'm striving to be an instrument of your peace.

Heavenly Father, show us the way.

Take us from darkness into light.

May we all come home?

May the kingdom of heaven be on earth?

Amen.

## The Sun

The sun in the sky does not know about darkness.

Even if darkness tried to show up, it couldn't.

In the face of light, there is no darkness.

When man becomes one with his father.

Darkness disappears.

He is full of light.

Christ.

A magnificent being.

The sun gives warmth to this world.

A Savior gives warmth to our world.

The sun's rays burn away impurities.

God's light burns away our impurities.

The Sun.

The Son of God.

One and the same.

## Are You Experienced?

Jimmy Hendrix was a rock singer for his age.  
He had an album, which contained this phrase.  
Unfortunately, he died when he was young.

But it's interesting, are you experienced?

Life has many experiences to offer.

Some are good and some are bad.

Everything has a purpose and meaning.

Yet what is the ultimate experience of this life?

Is it climbing Mount Everest?

How about riding a fifty-foot wave?

Is it snowboarding or skiing down a huge mountain?

How about being a CEO of a Fortune 500 company?

Maybe it's being the president of our country.

How about winning the super bowl?

For many, it's winning the lottery.

Are you experienced?

These are all outside experiences.

They come and go.

They are finite.

Yet what experience can last forever?

This is the experience we are looking for.

Saints throughout the ages have said it exists inside of you and me.

The wise man understands that all external experiences are finite.

The only true experience is keeping you alive.

Are you experienced?

## Bite The Apple

Imagine if you never saw an apple.

Someone then describes to you his experience of the apple.

It can be sweet and at times sour.

It can be green, red, or yellow.

It has a marvelous taste.

Words can only describe the apple.

They are not the experience.

In your imagination, we create the image of the apple.

Yet it is not the apple.

Man throughout history has written words about God.

These words are man's experience trying to describe the experience.

They are not the experience.

Man has to bite the apple.

Man has to taste the experience inside.



## Travels

I have traveled around the world and have seen the seven seas.

I've been to India and seen the Taj Mahal.

I've been through the Khyber Pass between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

I've seen the Eiffel tower and the Mona Lisa in France.

I've partied to the late hours in Argentina and Brazil.

I've hitchhiked from France to India.

I've hitchhiked from Kenya to South Africa.

I've been throughout South America.

I've been to the end of the African continent.

I've seen the Grand Canyon.

I've walked through the streets of New York.

I've lived in Hawaii.

I surfed in Fiji.

I've seen the pyramid of the Sun in Mexico.

I've seen Niagara Falls.

I've seen a 360-degree rainbow surrounding me at Victoria Falls.

I've seen poverty.

I've seen luxury.

I've seen all different kinds of people, cultures, foods, and religions.

This is an incredible world we live in.

It is so diverse.

We are all so different yet we have so much in common.

Let's try to appreciate our differences.

One flower is no better than another.

There is a garland of life tying us together.

## Education

I must admit that our education system is a pet peeve of mine.

Education is the foundation of a society.

When education declines it's a warning sign that your culture is in a state of decline.

Look at the past.

History is like a pendulum.

Great civilizations come and go.

Why is it that Rock Stars, Athletics, and actors make a million times more than a teacher?

Our teachers are barely making it.

We don't provide them with the proper tools and training.

We don't make an incentive for them to be better teachers.

We don't teach our young to think.

Almost everything we learn in school is rote memory.

If you have a great short time memory you can cram and pass any test.

Yet five minutes later you can't even tell me what you learned.

How did this impact man?

What lessons can we learn from it?

Our schools should be a magnet to this world.

Yet at this present time boredom, guns, drugs, and violence rule.

The ways we teach kids are so boring.

Education should be enlightening.

It should allow the soul to soar.

Imagine a child's curiosity is quenched.

Ah, that's how it works.

I had some great teachers in my life.

Both in and out of school.

These teachers have provided me with so much insight.

It doesn't matter what they taught, they conveyed such a powerful message.

I've had some teachers who have put me to sleep.

Please go to the page so and so.

No questions, please.

I'll take my paycheck but I'm not present.

I've been doing the same for forty years.

Why should I change?

We should be able to make education such a powerful thing that nobody would  
ever want to ditch school.

Imagine a child waking up in joy because he is going to school.

How can you learn when you are bored?

Something has to change.