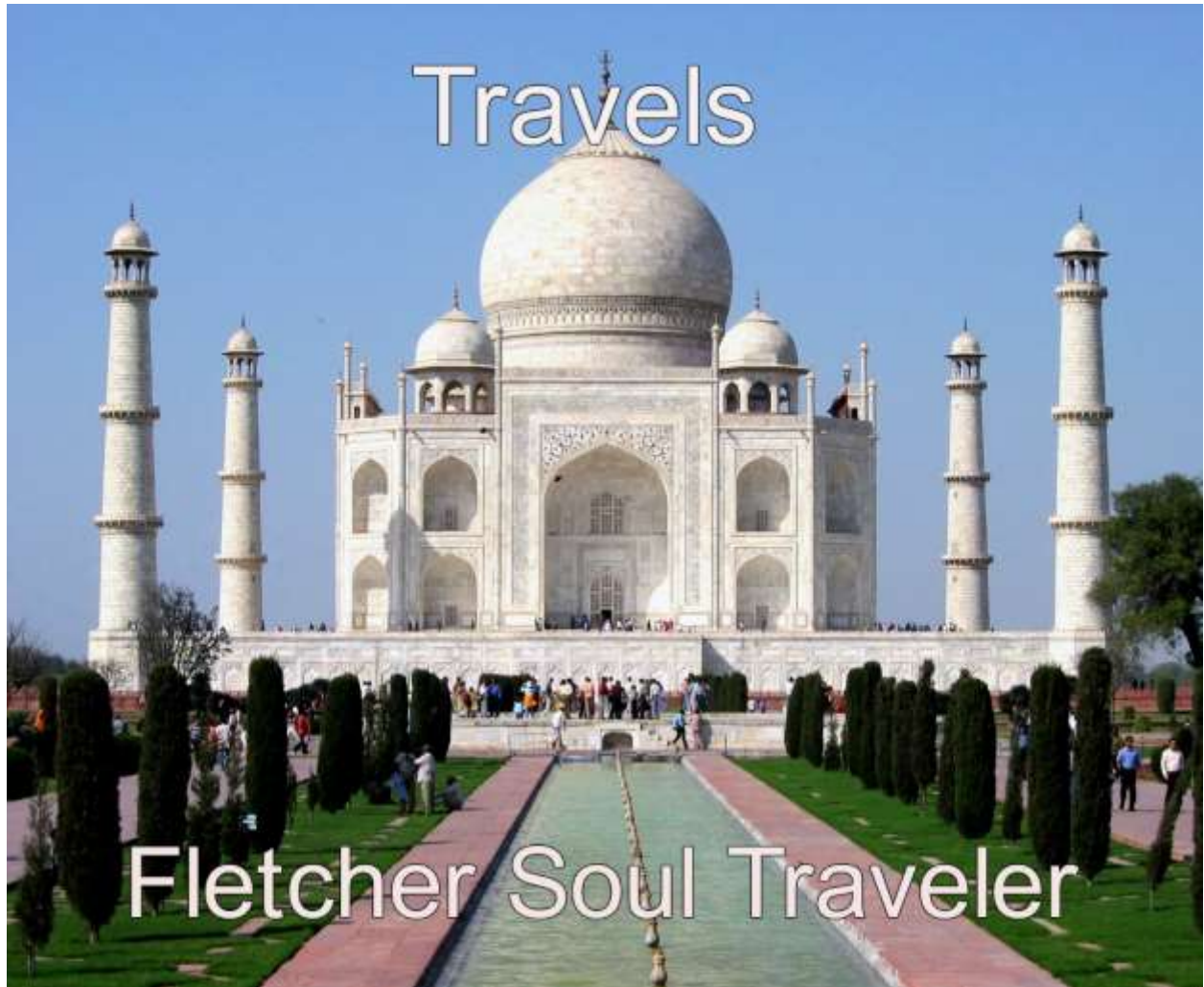


## Travels



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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## 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?

## 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.

## 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?

## 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.



## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 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.

## 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.