## **Poetry Series**

# Edwin Cordero - poems -

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## A Calamity Strange

Keep What you say— Maintain The name. **Symbols** Don't define me. Treason Is paid Through tranquility. Consider me A calamity Strange. You, And your rites, Are a type Of craze. So, While you hold Those Lies, Ι Will uphold The Night. See It unfold— The Bright Only blinds The eyes To Demise. I'll Set alight, Aligning The right. You've lost Your minds.

Ι

Can't be confined

Or dined—

Rather die

Than

Lie.

Being

Stripped

Of

Mine

Is also

Stripped

Of

Your kind.

#### A Cottage Thunderstorm

I met a girl,
And she was fine,
Dancing in candlelight.
It changed my world
When she declined
The jewels in my eyes.

Another twirl,
Another guy gets up in line.
Her skirt unfurls
As the night deepens our sky.

Outside, it's raining;
I feel it coming on.
This humidity's suffocating—
I won't last long.

Why do thunderstorms Have to ruin all? The dew begins to burn My lucid hands as I call.

This is the right number
To take me past this
To my home.
It doesn't matter what occurred—
None of it can be solved.

I last saw that girl
With a guy dancing behind,
And another one in front of her thighs.
It appears that they'll share love for one lonely night.
Outside, the sky seems so bright,
So peaceful, and so alive.

#### A Dip In

I had a dream I slept in seams, And my life was given away. Strangest part was how I beamed, Until noticing how far I'd strayed.

It was not irrevocable—
It could all remain the same.
My secret leaking was improbable:
It could all have stayed a game.

Yet, sorrow hit my heart— Upon feeling purity gone. I could no longer claim these stars Were meant for only one.

#### A Fantasy

I dream of a place so lively That death ceases to be. Here, with interactions hearty, No one wishes to flee.

She loves for more than face, Her betrothed more than waist, And all do not consider waste Hands held at steady pace.

No excuses here found Terminating youth and sound. None hide underground Below flowered mounds.

There is no such pain
As that of life in vain.
None play doctored games,
Then opt for change.

That was it, and clear I saw How we clawed above all Making this reality And that a fantasy.

#### A Time To Rise

This is the time to rise— When clouds cover the sky, And dark thunder rolls by, We hinder bloody night.

Seize wind on swings; Make it play as a violin. Cup rain into drinks With drops of dirt for gin.

Let moonshine be a sign For wine truly of time. Humidity conditions life; Our temperatures are ripe.

It is our time to rise— Bathe in rivers' height. The Sun's rays will light Our souls until we bite.

#### **Adieu**

She assumes that I'm dying to see her soon. Just cue in that attention, Won't you? We're fools in this maze without a clue As to who in the blaze bids us adieu.

Forgive us for forsaking that silver spoon, Or ignoring how your every whim it woos. It must have been the grimmest news To know there are limits to whom you do.

Enough of that, though—enough of rue.

Pat my head as if our friendship were true.

## All Want To Be The Only

All want to be the only Ones donning silk robes, Ones fawned at in droves, Ones king of the throne.

History's tale, is it not? Look at all the havoc brought, Then ask if it's for naught. No, not for naught.

For if the coin falls from loin, If those slain are in vain, What is there to gain? Where is there to aim? Who is there to join?

#### **Alloyed**

What I'd do for another whisper from that voice, Pleading, bleeding, calling out for my choice. Say' it'd been the wrong waist—a waste Within horses of troy, chasing a pace Now void.

Rejoice.

You've taken this, ran away with it, coy. Can't stop to think about any other toy. Sensed the outing on a hunt—being prey Sounded fun; the noise Brought pleasure to the poise, Once begun,

Alloyed.

#### **Always Beautiful**

Thought of us as always beautiful. You and I Before the skies first burnt our eyes, Back when in our minds were no present lies: Every previous time.

A present, one of a kind, has been Slowed growth—Admire How then it was thought we'd never die. These bodies, rotting, would feel alive.

An extra chance, additional hook in line, Would come, land, through the book of sire. Father, who art thou in remembrance, choir, For the hymns have failed to freeze fire?

I stare at my hands, As a student suggests their shake never ends. What a weird thing is this, in the end.

## Am I Human At Night?

I have two sides.
One I like,
And one I despise.
Marked by life,
And enticed,
Am I human at night?

So characterized by their gestures That it is metal to chew. If in life there's a heaven, I must tell you, it is cruel,

As it allows what we go through, And condones what we do. The earliest chance at death Would not be too soon.

Then again, why live?
Why exist in the first place?
It'll take all life to forgive
The existence of my birthplace.

#### An Apple Tree

I used to speak with an apple tree— She was ready to please. It was time for her fruits to be Eaten in Thanksgiving.

Her fruits were largely fresh And not penetrated by any worm. It was time for the world to mesh Throughout her juices, turn by turn.

I invited her to join my family—
To forget about nature's plea.
Yet she couldn't resist that calling—
She denied me.

The crowds gathered in distress

About how I rejected the fruit they yearned

"I cut that tree down, " I confessed.

"And oh—she burned and burned! "

#### An Incomplete Meadow Song

Is it best to leave words unsaid? Would that be the correct movement? Is it the most soothing path to take When an unruly heart breaks?

It is my wish to speak of a meadow song That was never fully arranged. Some parts came together before long, But it was never truly ordained.

Bad weather rejected the artist proper sight,
Thus he was left to compose at night.
When it was over, the Sun was perceived too bright
To merit believing its light.

Hence, he traveled with the storm, Selecting sorrow as treasures to adorn His meter and fever for scorn All through to the morning.

When he awoke, he spoke, but was unable to believe That his words lacked coherence in the breeze. He cursed the faraway Heavens as a fiend And chased eternally.

## Are You Lonely, Too?

These skies are hidden from me. Among the protuberance of night, I see only white, a ceiling, With walls gathering at its sides.

Enclosures compose our Death, reproduction woes, where The opposite solely knows; here Rules are never told.

Thus is my luck that
A deal was struck, now, then,
Before I could come to count, lest
I'd stare at skin.

A being, forever left to think Of byes to the past And possibilities it had, Which, by now, have been Forgotten.

#### **Artificial Light**

There's a certain sparkle illuminating the night, Yet I should know it's a disguise. Your kind has always lied through eyes And pushed to the edge mankind. Why would you even try To seduce my inner pride? It's enough to know nature presides Over the momentum of life. But again, why, when these lies Are not but for the love of light? Why, then, rejoice in captured might, When you ultimately inject spite? I suppose it's a struggle to survive.

Move on, Artificial Light.

Illuminate someone else's sky.

The night may not be bright,

But it's authentic in sight.

#### Be Nothing, Be Gone

When the suffering ends, I'll be nothing, be gone. Righted shall be wrongs, As my ashes flash, then Disappear amongst throngs.

No way to look back, hold on, To a face now lacked, love. No shame leaving matters unsolved, Or gains unamassed, lust.

Those stresses which make us move on Will be as if consumed by dawn.
Those lessons that darkened our lungs
Shall come to lose motivation.

Life is not where we belong, But how oblivion provides salvation. I've known all along,

When the suffering ends, I'll be nothing, be gone. Righted shall be wrongs, As my ashes flash, then Disappear amongst throngs.

#### Blow Me Away

Say what you say—
Do as you may;
Love me in darkness—
Love me at day.
Give me a word kiss;
Whatever you make,
Make sure you blow me away.

And as I'm blown,
Don't call me on the phone.
When I'm in town,
You'll be close but not around.
Your future will smile
Or frown,
But I won't be in there now—
No way, no how.

#### **Cathartic Paralysis**

Most of our lives are lived in paralysis Metropolis to Metropolis:
It is never adequate.
This fixation on a catalysis—
A changing, ultimate catharsis—
Proves our nature as languid.

We fail to effectively relinquish That vividly desolate image Which lures us on pilgrimage. On this search, we do not live. Our research cannot fix Unachievable bliss.

My life was intensified by an element—
That named woman.
I sought to understand the strands of hair
Belonging to bodies so fair.
Yet, now I remain adamant
About the measures of the Vatican
To patronize their secret lairs.
Their bodies are extravagant,
But, like Larkin, not fit
To satisfy my affairs.

Everyone has one, and then, upon
Disappointment, another search has begun.
The road continues down the slope, and then some,
But it never is done.

## **Change Of Mirrors**

There's a mirror only clearly seen
When near and speaking admirably,
But, behind this, there's another far away—
When blinded, it distorts your face.

A prism's involved in every single breath In your presence or absentmindedness. As Dorian Gray, so many curtains are set, But none may cover our mutual hideousness.

How beautiful we are around each other, though— What a memory to be wrapped by your bosom's hold! Too bad its lax, and the true temperament is cold, For I appreciated the lack of open scold.

One held my arm, and another blew her love; Female charms are as beautiful as doves. One promised friendship, and then turned against me; Male loyalty has valor like poultry.

## Days By The Seashore

What is man if not a shadow of himself, And a shadow of every measure dealt In sculpturing his torso's timely welts?

What is woman if not a mere seam To be reminisced, stitched in memory Appropriately where fashion dwells?

That is why all is swell;
That is why all we waltz—
We are all shells of ourselves,
Lying by the seashore.

#### Del Sol Y La Luna

Una isla desesperada Me enseño Que el sol y la luna Nunca se separan. Despertó En mí miles veladas De rencor.

Pues es así
Que ví
El sonreir
Morir.
Como cualquier animal,
Reaccionaba,
Mente y garras.
Percibí
Las intenciones reales.

Toda boca hace más
Que besar.
Cada naris tiene cual
Que buscar, y busca.
Una mano puede pegar
Invitando caricias.
Estas distinciones
Lo hacen todo.

## **Dream Of Lovely Japan**

Lost all hope in the dirt...

Don't think flowers bloom again.

Held on to fertilizer...

Until realizing its earthy.

Take a shovel, bury me

Next to your undergarments.

Send the coffin somewhere foreign;

I loved to dream of lovely Japan—

Amongst all those cherry blossoms,

Earthquakes must be an awakening.

That should be the perfect comfort:

Reckless inaction.

#### **Drop Upon Drop**

Drop upon drop, fate bangs away
On imminent loss: liquid evaporating.
We only go up, condense our beings,
To unavoidably fall
Through insipid fleeing.

A cycle undeniable, casual In how reliable our reactions are. Failure to question all rituals Tipping healthiness to lard.

Spars for a farce—
Wars through a marsh—
Horses that tarnish
Themselves at the smallest
Of sparks.

Bars for the heart— Limbs in tar— Are enough to collect All beliefs, regret In a jar.

## **Each Day**

Each day, I awaken to much the same things: A reload of cases and beings Followed by potatoes and beans. Layered up, heeding lust down the streets, The pace awaits severity. These daily meetings, Transmissions and transgressions, Seek to alleviate caving feelings Through remissions. As much as I ignite the ignition, The mission is still missing, Writhing, unconsciously leading Me on Freedom; King Kong Holding long After she's gone.

## Fiery Dark Opals

Fiery dark opals light up the sky;
Only if we could grasp these minds
Around touch of sights, lick of limes,
Outstretched intimacies of our time,
Would we see but choose not to mind,
Would eat yet stop a meal's define,
Would breathe within our allotted kind,
Without a thought to be inclined.
Yet, as with toxins, we're left outstretched,
Glaring at infinite greed, an endlessness,
For the fiery dark opals were in her eyes
And in mine.

#### Flesh In Chains

Flesh in chains—
Are you kidding me?
Is this a game?
It has to be.
Perhaps some sort of sadomasochistic flame
That extinguishes itself with enough pain?

It's as a picture,
Yet I'm lost in the frame.
Some coarse, mystic scripture
That has me wandering and wondering
If this is the correct way
To handle those deranged,
If our methods are, in fact,
Sane.

I'm tied to this;
I can't redo it.
We're lost in
A lethal influence.
These dog chains rattle
In confluence.
I'm losing my mettle,
Where's my endurance?

Our hearts beat faster in this tense spot.
Our minds' schemes fasten up to rot.
Is this a dream?
How unreal it seems
To be jotted under their Heaven's gleam.

There's no light—I find only artificial cold.

Their money might buy nice houses as you get old,
As your soul is sold,
As you're as an Eskimo,
As you betray your people.

#### **Fountains Of Youth**

If we drink from the beautiful water, Does it still run still? Or is there a chance it loses something, As you're being fulfilled?

Fountains of youth gravitate toward us: Dreams within a dream.

Mountains do not levitate islandsThey seem to let off steam.

Someone said, 'If you keep pulling at a thread, You'll watch the whole thing unravel.' Family's ripe with people building it, A tight-knit castle.

When the water flushes downward, Statues turn to marble. Amid the downpour, the ruckus, Feet are made bare by gravel.

Fountains of youth gravitate toward us: Dreams within a dream. Mountains do not levitate islands-They seem to let off steam.

I'll be there to see, Where this leads, If only alone, Under trees.

#### Free

You won't receive anything from me, So stare—I don't care. Your visions are incomplete. Go ahead and gossip down hallway stairs.

There are those who don't prefer to be free; Society's chains to them are pleasant dreams. I rather avoid the nightmarish scenes Involving being tied to those called "family."

Our definitions differ, Can't you see?

Nature's goal is to blossom, not to cease.

If a rose by the river is surrounded by weeds,

Should we let it wither because they all share leaves?

#### Geisha

Why are women Geisha? No, not in a white mask, But in their breath and past? What a confusing behavior!

These would-be entertainers
Practice seduction as a craft,
Returning one of many favors
To the wallet that can match
The Highest Bidder's.

Yet, to the rest of men and women, Being in their presence is refuted, Due to not being up to task In economic terms, at last.

There is another type of Geisha; One that succumbs to faces, Dressing as a doll with make-up And filling victims with hatred.

Women who cannot look past
The superficial layers attached
To one's true demeanor—
Denouncing any pass
Made by those who took a chance
At loving their figure.

What a confusing behavior!

#### Gone

In the end, we're defeated by life.
There is no shining knight—
There is no dawning day.
We stay wherever we can,
And when its over, then,
We're gone with the wind.

I'd like to say something different,
Something uplifting,
But it's a flow within currents,
Whether you have insurance
To deal with strict adherence
To procedure and demeanor
Every obstacle's finite details—
A life of features.

#### Haunted By Rue

In the moonlight, I'm haunted by rue; At noontide, the waves crystallize us, But how could this be if we were nothing? I assume that is the freedom of inaction.

You said your body would be mine too, If and when I'd come only inside you. That should, then, be for him to discover. I was before him, lower number as a lover.

When the streamline pulls out, And everything is left to loll about, You'll see the emptiness in being finished; That precious image will have diminished.

#### Hell's Fire

I've kissed a demon's lips
Amidst the loveliest mist
This life has ever missed.
To be remiss in reminiscence
Has extended the waiting periods—
Cannot let go of the figments, the essence
Of forgotten promises: evanescence.

Hell's fire Hisses.

Lie before me, again,
Only to make it last, my friend.
In a world full of pretense,
That's how to begin
And end.

Hell's fire Mends.

#### Here Is

Light flickers upon the tank; It explodes, vision is sank Below the surface glass.

A beauty figure, of rank— Wonderful woman, I think; Here is life's utmost lass.

No, it's a crystal drink, In joy of life it basks: Here is the end of fast.

Wait, but it's fate in mask. I see the sand land, lack; Here is Grave's hour-glass.

## High Again

Listen to those sounds, her moans
Of pure orgasm—You know
There's not a way back by morning.
A cab will pick her up—a goner.
No pick-ups, no tones.
Even if she does, supposed
We knew what this was before it started.
Why should casualness be bothered?

#### **Human Construction**

On one of my last strolls, I saw a mountain range and thought, "The world's a painting, is it not?
What a brilliant imitation...
What exuberant delineation
Covers every single spot
Of beauty in all nations
As ingredients in a pot..."

A little after then, I stopped
And watched
The travelers in march,
Sullen, starched,
Dressed at large,
Joking, and whatnot;
Clothing formal worth noting
Or scarce and provoking
To cover the need for eloping
Through better jobs.

That was when the question was brought: "Who's imitating—the world or the paintings... Or are they confabulating to construct us?"

#### **Ignorance**

Someone tell me it isn't the truth—
Who could imagine a slaughter this magnitude?
People's passions viciously fused
For the worst of reasons to be used.

A war between ideas, far and near, Yet both sides have reasons to be feared. Populations ignorant of religion's steer— Infiltrated by extremists in political careers.

How many must die before we realize
That punishment and " justice" combine to form a lie?
Humans are known for their ability to idealize,
Yet many still mourn their loved one's side.

Educate and compensate visionaries of a new world. Do not hesitate, but make haste to unfurl A tabula rasa engraved with messages of pearls Hidden in the ocean, but longing to be murals.

#### **Ignore**

A horse was unleashed today, as a sign of envy.

The goal was to shorten my day, excruciating time's ending.

How do we stop hate, pain, and ingrates of life,

Who would rather see others in strife than might?

He walked a gentle path, unaware that the move Sought to lure his blood towards streets to ooze—As if his death could improve The incredible mess they deal with this afternoon. A life of hatred only brews and brews.

It's never right to implore those bored;
Who chooses to adore such a futile chore?
Our paths to the shore
May be troubled by moors,
But we can always, eternally,
Ignore.

# Ignored By The World

Chase!
Chase it down
To the town
And back, if needed.

The pace!
It exhilarates:
The sound
And speed of a cheetah.

A prey
So Astray and
Bound by graves of
Unforgiving features:

Becoming Caves Hidden about The World Stage's shade On Poor Syria!

#### In Memoriam

Could you hold me
For just one second?
Let every pain be
Faint light, slowly dwindling.
The act of living
Is a straightjacket,
Mingling, and I'm coming
Off the market.

Do you see that far ahead, Each relative, lover, friend, Dead? Gone is even Your place of origin; Next, shall be everything Written in memoriam.

#### Income In The Bank

Sitting in the secretary's office, I ask When they are hiring, or if the time Has passed.

"You cannot replace those here, " she says, "Or in any other place, I fear, unless A political dealer is your friend."

Aghast,
Memories, of not long back, blast
Freshly into the present frame.
That man,
Colleague, fellow student, master
Of planning, knew when to grasp
At his supervisor's egoistic mass
And tame.

I offer my thanks
And leave,
Not regretting, although displeased
At the punishment on my attempts
Toward an honest path.
What's left to wonder? I guess
If the chunks
Of his soul sold are worth
Income in the bank.

#### **Inner Silence**

Sometimes, it's better not to speak
Than to be judged for your words.
Excuse me for not believing in fairies,
I was raised by this dirt
Where some of the only things with wings
Are butterflies,
And the stuff of old men's dreams
Are lies.

See, we may never see eye to eye,
But I promise I would never categorize
You as good or evil, because that's a disguise.
It takes true talent to accept both sides.

Welcome to my world: I was raised in a haze Where you remained in a book all day Of fortunetellers' bid for power, Until I noticed how we spent every hour. It's an excuse not to pursue A life worth living in this jungle's zoo. The pain becomes too much to construe A purpose without magic to rule.

Isn't it enough to see beauty in the morning sky?

I believe that if the truth were in everyone's mind

They'd huddle together instead of waiting for pleasure
In another life.

### It Was Only Ever A Glimpse

A glimpse at the mirror shows clearly My blurry reflection.
Too many lessons have been tearing At these senses.
The phase of glorified flesh ended, Yet I never knew when it commenced, Or where it headed.

It's grown nearly impossible to see the eyes. I've always had trouble establishing "me." Lo and behold, what a surprise That I've continued disfiguring.

Tormented and rejected by the lust of dreams, My hate has drawn to sleep. Who wants to awaken smothering An impossible fantasy?

A clock keeps ticking, And with this hangs fate. They make it sound endearing, But it's hard accepting you'll be late.

Suppose it fair to say
How confused I remained,
But at my dying day,
I was a different being.

### Jump Off

She loves to jump off Every single precipice At a sequence, Abandoning one victim; Always a diamond Taken from a woman With that vixen Allure. Those primal savages Want to savage her; She'll mine for it-Amor. Any cliff too high Must want caves Inside. Only graves provide Ardor. She'll jump far enough, Bury your love, Take every treasure You have and run off To only search for Another hilltop And blood diamonds Galore.

#### Land

Our land has become Death's brothel— Collection of soft hands and hardened muzzles. Lives canned to display strength or gain muscle, Splattering remains in joyous, endless tussles.

It has turned to game, wrestling
The sane to deranged—nestling
A thirst for revenge and rendering
These actions Heavenly dependent.

Our fear provides the rumors
Gearing towards cowardly tumors—
Rearing a supply of awkward humor.
For as we rise from fumes of
Imminent funerals,
The existential question comes to pressure:
What in life is there to treasure?

### **Lighting The Match**

Who would believe that a leaf holds such power As to influence the quality of one's daily hours? So repugnant is the nature of what we admire That it determines the fate of all held truly ours.

You, leaf, dictate our lives to such a degree
That even husbands and wives may be determined by thee.
The young man who bangs leaves out of an old lady's tree,
And the young woman whose lips in deed cause ecstasy.

We may never comprehend the extent to which this mechanism controls us. Inequality's reign never ends—as it remains impervious. You know which alternative could be glorious? If we all, one day, burned down the forest.

### Lolled

How many of us have you crushed? About as many as you've sucked The life out of. That space separating love From hatred lately is small— Starting from answering Your every call, To having my ring Not picked up at all, And your ring Brought back to the mall. My name can be screamed In much too many Ways for me To recall, Yet I'll still vainly fall For your shiny twin, Lolled.

### Lost In A Sea Of Beauty

I want to be free, Lost in a sea of beauty, Fleeing life's tragedy.

I have come to accept That only through death Will I ever escape the irony.

I will miss her, Though I'm still unsure Whether she's a figment Of my imagination.

If death means peace, Maybe it's meant to be.

#### Lost In The Land

I am lost, in this land,
Where no man can sit, where no man can stand.
No one understands, until the end,
There's nothing to commit, nothing to hand.
Those highest peaks, beloved sands,
Trail our falls, down where they begin.
For it is not for what is man,
But how was, and how not,
In living.

### Lost In The Memory

I am lost in the memory
Between what was, what could be,
And what is.
A situation impossible to fix:
My own Rubik's ruby.

Thoughts too far away to foresee Leave me shocked—wishing to flee My death wish. No contemplation survives amidst Rigid bombarding.

So it is, in this spot so tiny,
That I continue lost until a thought reminds me
That I am still in the mist
Of inexistence—
That I continue lost in the memory.

#### Loved

All I wanted was to be loved.
I thought I saw it through innocent touch,
But it ended up with innocence lost.
Now, I find myself searching out of lust.

One hand holds another hand— I am too young to understand That this rhythm is banned. My love has to change.

## Lying In The Shade

The shade of colors delineate
A taste of odors below her waist.
Chaste hors d'œuvres come before our main plates
To decorate the borders for escape.

I think we'll all have an order, In its most primal, innate state. Make it rare, so we can bear Our putrid, human fate.

Continue putting it out there; It's life, and it's only fair. Let's all eat it without a care Until it soothes our crude fears.

# Misao Fujimura

A boy writes dying Thoughts of lost love on a tree And leaves it mourning.

#### **Monotone**

He walked up to me, Shook my hand, Then began Rants About past Events— History.

Strangely,
I stared,
Wondering
If he were
Aware
That lady
Called him
Crazy
Next to me
For walking
Past the
Unemployment
Line
Multiple times.

"Twenty years
Ago,
Such and such
Was here.
No es lo mismo—
Government's cleared
Our opportunity to steer
The economy
Alone."

Conversation ended Monotone.

### **Never Atrophied**

I now know much—
Perhaps too much
To ever be happy.
Sorrow is the norm
With which I adorn
Desolate valleys,
But beyond that—I yearn
To earn life's trophies,
And that is a beautiful feeling
Never atrophied.

### **Never Known But Always Told**

Never known what passion is, But I've always attempted to find out. It's stayed an invisible luxury, Never relenting in being roundabout.

Passion remains a magic bliss, Which only in movies exists— That shared between six lips In an onscreen kiss.

Passion stays alongside all holidays In the ways it washed my brain. Just like Christmas—When it came, You knew that you were in for pain.

Never known, but always told— Passion is a gift forever delayed, With movements swift in change In order to shackle the sane.

### Never The Same, But As They Want

You and I are never going to be the same. People, like the seasons, change. Could it be that treason's fame Is through collective, not individual, gain? For if one fails to go with the grain, That one is hammered, driven insane, And all the world keeps moving, Without a blink, a say. Do you have yourself to give away, Or a benefit to fit someone else's game? If not, you are someone else's problem, And that is the way you stay.

#### **New Gateway To Heaven**

She spread out,
Like if showing a valuable thingPerhaps a new gateway to Heaven;
Something soothing pain in the wreckage
Of living,
And all the boys
Seem to have fun with her toys.
What makes oneself worth giving?
Why's a lifetime spent kneeling
Before others wishes?

Pain can be glorious,
Enjoyed at any rates,
But so are
Terrors
In death games.
They taunt herReminiscences
Of past mistakes,
Knowing full well
Another is
On the way.

Someone hush the noise,
Someone halt the scene,
Someone pause the destruction
Of beauty.
Love was never meant to be employed,
Or fooled by any means,
Yet only fools
Surround me.

### Night Dip

I dipped into the river
To see
How many shivers
Would free
Me
From all these
Meanderings,
From morbid
Reality.

She dipped into the river At ease;
The Sun did not live up
To be
Warmth in
The breeze:
Just a source
Of gravity.

We dipped into the river
To flee
The cause of our break-up.
Inevitably,
We
Seem floundering
Into uncharted
Territory.

### No Me Dejes

No me dejes; Jamás ni me dejes. Has sido una fiebre Lenta, ardiente.

Desde que nací, Y ahora, Que mi vida muere, Te seguiré siempre Hasta la muerte.

No puedes; No lo entiendes. Esto se presiente— El mundo viene.

Estaré allí, Cuando el día llegue. Diré, "Ayer te vi— Sabía quién eres".

Cuando el mundo Rompa fuente, Y se bajen los muros En todo ambiente,

Será el lugar Para reclamar Que fiel fui Al verte llegar.

### **Nothing Good**

Nothing good awaits us; We're born to learn Death's hovering. Thus, the seconds tick away And our hope goes with them, Vanishing. Hear pigs squealing, Nature's screams. Find out the nature In ice cream: How meat Produces meat For all to eat, Eventually. No, you'd also better roam, at least Three-hundred streets On those bare feet And see whom stops to see, If any at all act kindly. Then we'd know, Then we're free.

#### On To The Next One

So many paths—
No one right direction.
Slowing at last,
I've come to learn lessons.

Every single day that rises
I fear is my end.
Someone halt it all for a second;
Let me catch my breath.

On to the next
Stop—
On to the next
Block—
On to the next
Shop—
Life doesn't stop.

I've lived in fantasies For way too long. This world's reality Is to never be loved.

We're slaves, ants to be Burnt up. Our graves are trashy things Not picked up.

And when the magnifying glass Does come,
Then, you'll know everyone
Moves on—

On to the next Stop—
On to the next Block—
On to the next Shop—

Life doesn't stop.

## **Opportunities**

We look beyond To a future life, With progress becomes A beautiful sight. Misery yearns for some relief Found in life's opportunities. Mysteries we seek, When all is bleak; Solutions to be The magical key To unlocking all that's not well— The promise in our wishing wells. Can you smell as you inhale Through the curtains veil? It's a tall-tale world— Disguising what we feel. Striving to find that one deal, Unknown behind the secret seal.

#### **Paradise**

Paradise is not all it seems.
There are limits in who breathes its breeze.
These buildings don't belong here;
A few tourists don't see our fear.
The beach limited by who perceives
Beyond the walls that block Natives
From Palm Trees.

There's Anguish in the news due to all the blood spewed. Those with power languish for dollars by the hour. Young adults' lives are limited by the law's curfew. A young poet seeks to dominate a language's valor.

No hopes or aspirations for a nation without jobs. One that cuts funding to education for rich cowards. The Third-World pleads for a piece of food rations, Yet inequality threatens peace through provocation.

It is unknown to where the world shall head. History's library shows a pile of dead. The fact that humans permitted this dread Incites me to fear what lies ahead.

### **Perfect Consumption**

The time has come

To be undone—

Rejuvenated.

Crime has spun

One alone,

Infatuated

With rebirth;

Rehearse

The hurt

First-

Thirst's

Curses

Lurk

Worse,

Ever

Evolving,

Revolving,

Controlling,

Consuming

Hearth.

See what I see through a flames' burst; Heed the smoke's billows out of frame— Nurse

The rhythm to the pace at a place versed.

#### **Pine-Winter**

I find myself lost without place to hide.
The pine-winter frost fails to justify
Where I'm at,
What I've lacked,
And those decisions that can't be taken back.

So, I stare and see the sound;
I hear a bristle
And turn around—
Christmas trees glisten,
As they're smitten
With unrequited love
Never to be found.

I'm left to ponder why, Oh why, I've never accustomed To the ground.

#### **Pure Survival**

There's always a wall.

We waver through the call —

No way to escape this place

At all.

Our masses stand tall

As they end up buckled.

Who wants to win the game?

#### Shuffle.

Hand in hand at malls,
Love shows it's dismal.
Who's first to lose a glance?
The balls
We have till dawn
Hide our lovely chaos,
Because they're beautiful

#### Freedom.

Their orders far fall,
The dresses come back on,
And we're left to die
Lost,
For what was thought
As remedial
Turned out to be futile,

Insatiable.

### **Queen Of Sensation**

She walks in rain
Domain to domain,
Exciting veins
While taking the reins.

There's no such thing As shame associated— She ignores the pain And gamely fakes it.

Her lips have fame;
The ultimate curators
Igniting flames,
Turning liquid into vapor.

Men owe her favors— She's owed their lives For resisting the temptation Of telling their wives.

The Queen of Sensation, Title to which she abides, Describes the rhythm Of her sensual thighs.

This Queen isn't fooled; She knows it's a lie, But from her early youth, She was taught to satisfy.

### Questions

If I pray to you, Could it solve our mystery? Everyone says that soon You'll have my intrigue.

If I kneel,
Would worlds wash away?
Still,
Isn't in your hands all pain?

How can you see,
But not act,
Not attack,
Not do anything?
Is it true
What he said—
Are we all abandoned

To commend
In your hands?
Are you our friend
Or just the shepherd?

#### Ríos

Por cada doctor,
Abogado, locutor,
Y maestro
Que vive en nuestro
Mundo, existen
Miles de talentos
Perdidos.

Aquellos a los cuales Estas localidades Fueron más amargas Que dulces: A cuenta larga, Frutas Llenas de frustre En lindo camino Del vivir.

Yo soy uno de esos,
Perros sin hueso,
Travieso atravesando
Ríos al sumergirse.
Y cuando regreso
A aquel tierno
Terreno,
Del pasado,
Parece todo
Un chiste.

For every doctor, Lawyer, showman, And teacher Living in our World, there exist Thousands of lost Talents.

Those to which

These localities
Have been more bitter
Than sweet:
In the long run,
Fruits of frustration
On the beautiful streets
Of living.

I am one of those
Dogs without a bone,
Trickster traversing
Rivers by submersion.
And when I return
To the past's
Tender land,
It all appears
Pure diversion.

#### Rocks In The River

She hasn't been with us enough
To behold the scope for submission,
Working bodies to same old songs;
Flesh is flesh,
Like rocks in the river.

Her silver-linings are always sliding, Pushed to the side in times of hurry: Visuals keeping minds grinding, As she resists another flurry.

Everyone loves a puzzle to solve; We are our own enigma. Once done, does it merit going along A routine, now transfigured?

Never, never, For flesh is flesh, Like rocks in the river.

#### **Roses Without Thorns**

My apologies to you, Rose, For misunderstanding Where we were to go Or what would happen.

You had been plucked long ago, But desired to fasten Yourself on solid soil In the hopes of lasting.

My tears pour through For what you chose. A beauty for all to view Disrobed.

No thorns on their clothes; I am left to suppose That you did it to cope— Cloaked.

Now I understand that's not what you were to do, But you have to remember that I was young too; I had not a clue to foresee the brew— And save you.

I can imagine those men up in the stands, Passing wrapped roses from hand to hand, And you're left in a trance, once again, Until you wither and are forgotten.

#### Saw The Salmon

Saw the salmon swim up river:
Their journey was over.
Shivers seemed to strengthen
That move forward.
Perhaps senses were lowered
As a last cushion to hold;
Maybe, it was part of a flow
Meant to go.

They were followed
By death more than me.
She glanced, admiringly,
In tender glow.
They released, were swallowed,
And she pranced at ease.
She knew what I know.

#### Self-Esteem

Here lies one door I should not have opened.

Someone saw my riches, and they were stolen.

Whatever may happen, this remains unspoken.

No one must know what it is provoking.

The battle may be found where the smoke is.

A king cannot be crowned without blood to soak in.

It is in that cup that he drinks to choke with

All on his own without chance of forfeit.

Catch this thief, I beseech you to!

Look at her teeth, because she is see-through!

Nightmares plague me under these blue moons,

Reflecting brightly in rivers at noon.

Someone lit fire to my meadow in a morning without rain. I saw what could happen to my Kingdom and writhed with pain. Forget that thief—let her keep what she took! Why choke when pride and belief are mistook? Finding hearts drive many briefly insane— In fits of anger destroying all in range. Regrets I see that of history create books— A never-ending cycle of rivers and hooks.

# Sin Salida

Ganando, Perdiendo, Me pierdo En ella. Su veneno Me quema, Llena

Mis venas.

Concentro
Todo
Deseo
Adentro:
Lo que temo

Y aquello

Más dando cuentos.

Que la vida Siga Incalculable, Fría, Sin guía, No varía Los amantes En línea.

#### **Snow Mountain**

Up on this mountain, A clear fountain Distills water.

Up on this mountain, The snow covers My Asian cottage.

Hiding in it, Shuddering, At that image.

Who would've thought After all the scarce Populace pilgrimage

That I'd be visited By this distraught, Wretched demon.

Nightfall's on the horizon As I peak through blinds on This wagging figure.

Blowing the candles, My body trembles As a mirror.

To hear him calling
In mocking fashion
Is the ultimate trigger:

"You should have gone For that liaison; What a coward.

Spending time Writing poems To freeze fireTell me, is it not That she haunts In nightmares?

You should have sought To have popped Her idea.

Why bathe so just, In water distilled aloft, Only because it's clear?

It's much more fun To dip in mud At the rear."

Up on this mountain, He causes someone Cloaked to appear.

Up on this mountain, That waist is fastened, Only to reveal

That here—
She is smiling
In the worst of hauntings.

#### Stop In Awe

Have you ever stopped in awe At just how lucky and disgraced We are?
Seas of faces barge in bars,
Selecting poison, coitus—
Lives of choices
Scarred.

Those alone are not the only tarred, Set alight, marred by the world. By far, accompanied folks disarm Themselves for being held in arms And told,

"That for all of life's lovely charms, You're the one worth knowing well. I'll be rough, even if it causes alarm— You're worth being damned to Hell."

We watch, stop, and search For life's frenzied farewell, Even though it's all dirt Surrounding an empty well.

# Stormy Night

I'm by the sea
Next to crying wind,
Which ceased to be
A peaceful breeze.
Vacationers are running,
And I begin
To hear sirens
Warning me.
Yet I stay—
I stay and wait
To hear the ocean's
Currents break.
Yet I lie myself in place
To await the end
Of unruly fate.

The tsunami fails to come, And I'm undone By the extensive wait. I approach the ocean For its sake, And then I am awake.

#### The Bat

The bat oversees the entire village, Blindly, wildly reaching for berries. Down below, by a couple's cottage, No one knows a legend's flying.

He had terrified many into pilgrimage— Made them stock their flock with crosses; Unknowingly rocked capes now vintage Years before this very hunt had happened.

This flight led to a colorful window-ledge, Where a young lady was spotted within, Staring, counting ticking seconds ahead Of their unfortunate passing, it seems.

The bat snuck past her now-busy head, Stretched out an arm, opened the fridge, Took some berries and even some bread, Fluffing pillows before she went to bed.

# The Bay

It should have been more. It should have been less. I feel so rotten about it.

This fragment of friendship—
This montage of union—
Extinguishes fumes of disillusion.

Is it possible to pave a way
For two souls to exchange
The happenings of night and day

Without solace in fray— Without envious decay Eroding its rocky base?

# The Bind Of Sleep

I bind with sleep in the depth of my mind,
Where I find, and attempt to keep, treasures of mine:
Time wasted, feelings faded,
All the love,
And all the hatred,
Which rise and decline
As chills down my spine.

I lie to myself awake,
Open-mouthed and feeling
For Feeling's sake.
It sends me reeling
Destroyed, irate
With the coy dealings
Of Fate.

I die, and die, until left with only life To face until truly late.

#### The Downed Kite

Once upon a time, a man desired a woman. She was perfectly sized, with eyes blue and clear. What a pleasure for his mind to imagine Holding on to her beautiful behind so dear.

Days and nights passed gathering his might To tell that lovely sight what he felt. The man approached that woman flying a kite, Which right there and then fell.

Standing behind her, and speaking of love attained from afar, Her striking silence provoked pain in his heart At knowing not what she felt, or if she comprehended in part, How her beauty's spell refused to depart.

She turned around with a face so covered in scars
That the man preferred blindness to witnessing more.
He ran away, then drove full-speed in his car—
Leaving with nothing to adore.

#### The Heart

The Heart knows not of love, But of the blood within its pumps. No one quite knows love at blunt— Only the coveted Brain does.

The one that can be altered, Sheltered, and sponsored In order to function Towards love at once.

A Heart only suffers
The rise in pressure
Of every single measure
Aimed at its stump.

For as we engage in pleasures Of trifling Earthly treasures, It inevitably ends with a lesson On someone's Broken Heart.

### The Last Bird Song

The last bird song heard
In this forgotten flesh
Is one of sorrow, worry, and regret;
The whispers plea across the trees
To say goodbye to me,
Finally.

"We all fetch the same bets— Take part in the mesh to survive it. Although that can't be had, We are glad to continue the path Or find ways around it."

If what you assume is true,
We are all inevitably subdued.
I've queued life's clues
And found beauty in blue.
Let it be what it may.

"Choosing to be gone in May?
Why not test fate by joining hate?"

I'll tell you why—I rather be late Than never arriving at a place.

Then, they just flew away.

#### The Last Call

Ring, ring...
Your family's calling
It seems;
One last battle,
Using all of your strength,
Is all that's needed
For the pain to cease.

Or perhaps it's the other way
Around,
Yet you must react to that wretched
Sound.
Yes, I know graves find our caves
Out,
But there's so much to be done in fetched
Hideouts.

Where's liberty by Vieques' sea? (You'd love to blow kisses at an evening breeze.) I bought you a lamb—if only you would see That life is changing for our family.

It all reaches us, but I believe
There's no harm in procrastinating
Our departure—What we could be
Before the rug is swept under our feet.

### The Living

If there were words to say In the depths of despair, They'd be to live and greet Completely unawares Of impending defeats, Cheats, and care, Of each peak you'll bleed Internally with fears. For there is not much To care for here; We've all been launched, Grunted, into the stratosphere, And the only means to touch Down are clear: You must Be blunt enough to shear Through hair and skin, Vain and organ, push to brinks Nature's order, and therefore Sink as grounding blimps, Filling the grounds with stink Until it's over. But if fear is your ally, You may so choose to sit Out your flight, let it Crash in an empty alley, Or so land in the middle of night. Yet listen, again, You'd still be torn in Pieces by then, So is there real difference, My friend? Why let your cold stiffen Those limbs? Time to sleep! Let others Weep Living.

### The Lucky Plant

Did I ever rant about my Lucky Bamboo plant? Lucky, of course, because it needs no land. The world is scant, although a sycophant, And this beauty needs not a hand.

It's similar to me, I'd say—it can't tolerate the Sun, At least not through direct exposure any way done. Left to revel in dark, this plant discovers most fun Without the need of anyone.

That's not to say it doesn't suffer alone—
The lack of nutrients does cause harm.
But it's best to be short-lived than be sprung
At the whims of everyone.

# The Nature To Actuality

Everything seems to fade away, My soul has stopped breathing. Endless buffets were days, Air the night kept beaming.

Next dawns had to be staunch. The future held a meaning: Alive to discover the bunch Of secrets TV would tease me.

When I stepped into reality, Humidity triggered heaving, The nature to actuality Is all but artistic-leaning.

# The One Who Kept Me Company

I'm unable to enjoy a day as today. It's always been away;
A failure to attain the void
In the mind's pathways.

As Time passed, I became
The same as those insane—
Wishing that miracles would change
Life's undoubtedly cruel games.

Happiness—we're both going down.
It was Sadness who stayed
When you were not around.
I'm staring at these lights of the town,
Wondering of those who played
With you, as I drowned.

# The Sea And The Lighthouse

Moon, strengthen the tide.

Seas of regret and pride—

Faith, the lighthouse of my life,

How do you shine so bright?

I will never let sight of my ruby go—

May be drowned if the false truth unfolds.

But, even then, freezing in the ocean's cold,

Memory will light our hearts as we together grow old.

### The Search

If I'm lost within my own soul, Which high command may rescue me? The worst silence is one found alone, Although surrounded by the ocean's breeze.

### The Spark Of Confusion

By the stairs, there's a fancy black lady, Shopping for straighteners and magazines. Her hair is dyed blonde, her eyes green, And she wears the whitest dress I've seen.

Her bible is of glamorous, golden colors, Bearing an elephant sticker on its cover. She caresses the hand of a cowboy lover And dismisses employees as too far under.

This driver's license she boasts for all present Classifies her ethnicity as a white lament. No wonder the census made no sense—What does it mean to be Puerto Rican?

# The Sun Rises Again

The Sun rises again,
Shedding itself over hills.
The clouds dissipate
To clear its way
Through.
It runs the same trend—
Spreading influential thrills
Over mounds that steer the fate
Of walking graves
Anew.

I cannot stand the mystery Or the coincidence: Actions that bring misery Are of no consequence To the history Of existence.

We walk towards where? Is the finish line anywhere? Do we even care?

#### The Travel Of Evil

Evil goes as evil knows, Victim imitating craving, Replicating tantrums shown In past events, only lately.

Evil roams as blood flows, Inheritance in the making, And people cast ivory stones To keep it obeying.

Evil's woes are never told: It's invulnerable to baiting. The filthy stash of skin and bones Weeps as it's arranged.

# The Wheelchair Spins Like Life

These wheels spin
To stares engulfing grins.
No one wants this thing;
The blatant rush drives patience thin.
She's a child, a baby—not worth discriminating.
However, her similarity to adults is irritating
Everyone and everything.

I sink to think of all that could have been: Our family achieving the American Dream. It's turned to regret, repenting all those things Which blurred right and wrong to this brink. It's all ready gone to nothing.

#### The Work Ants

Sometimes, I feel like a toy.
No, not a real boy.
Joy comes through me
Until I'm broken.
Nothing is spoken.
Riding in a convoy
Filled with choice,
We share the same void:
Equal poise to avoid
Life's true noise.

# Tiger Eyes

A deep stare into the tiger's eyes Reveals emeralds desired, yet once denied. The stage of unholy fire in winter nights That determines who has or loses life.

She's a tiger due to the danger Associated with any loving behavior; For as much as humans adore saviors, Their truest love is that of hatred.

Keeping a tiger imprisoned should be a crime: Freedom is the purpose of nature's time. Feeling alive is the rarest kind Of emotion to possess and enshrine.

#### To Be Beautiful Or Blind

If we were only beautiful, We'd own half the world. Funerals would be held, As time takes its toll. That'd be far gone, though, And, until we're swirled, A whole universe'll Watch us twirl.

We'd be the sight
For every delight.
Kings, queens,
Wherever is light,
And, at night,
Succumb to spite—
Devoured, as you would pie.

Somewhere, in that darkness, Though,
We would know:
Our likeness treats us so.
And, in this time,
Where nothing shines,
We'd wish all, our kind,
Were to be blind.

# To My Sanctuary

You'd put me out, Pissed, prodded, Potty-mouthed, As if these topics Were blunted now: Twisted, too rhythmic, Untouted riles That writhe inwardly, Inhospitably wild. Lay on the laughter, Child. Search chapters of grammar, Dial changing numbers: Found meters meeting media's Cloud. Sunlight comes, and in then's while, I'll remain king of this house.

# **Took My Love**

Took my love through Hell;
She soaked in the flames—
Dispatch, she's ready.
Flee on a plane.
When this day comes,
I'll lie awake,
Staring at the ceiling,
Dreaming of fate,
As done those times
I saw her with him—
The perfect them,
Their perfect win.

#### **Torture**

Lessen the pain, lest we Miss the array.
Listen, meaning
Has no name.
Lessons, teeming with
Us in frays
Relegate, delegate
Fate.

Kindred, bloodied face,
Stitch wounds, abate
Punctures, pictured taste:
Vengeance anomaly.
Mercy, for me, pace!
Think of spoils, waste:
Family in crates—
Tragedy soirée.

Stretched out late, We've seen a lake Not worth drowning.

#### **Unbarreled Gun**

I, at once, lost, I, at once, won, I, at once, thought My peril gone. It was to be unarmed, Chained, besotted, Traveling alone, In an island, All departed. For the desert, I'd head, Leveling that dread, And find, no less, My good friend. Then was known, As an unbarreled gun, The useless run, The useless run.

#### Unique

She's quite unique:
Always heard, but never seen.
They don't appreciate her beauty—
Particular in the features they seek.

I questioned her last week—
Asked about her sacrifice.
She said they knew not what they possessed,
But that the love of one would suffice.

One day, she will be admired,
Delighted in love aloft.
Then, they will know what was lost,
As they exhibit a fire of desire,
And that fire is put out by her frost.

How fitting would that be? As fitting as night after day. No more bidding for beauty. May her love never stray.

### **Unsatisfactory Dreaming**

She said she'd think of giving taste, Yet only found myself in dreams— Apparently too chaste a case To satisfy her being's needs.

She told this story angrily, Like I deserved definite blame For her imagination enduring Unpleasing, comic tease in shame.

My bad, yes ma'am, find fault in me, Since I was there to touch That precious vault incredibly— Not merely feel it mush.

You poms could view my best, Or close to it, I bet.

# What May Be

Sometimes, I question myself; What if I were to have you And no one else? Would we hold true, Would those years on the shelf Turn your taste to sweet fruit To be drunk in gulps?

It is only when passion has knelt
That I comprehend the ruse;
You're an image, begging for forgiveness,
Utterly confused,
And that I may be to you—
That I may be to you.

### What To Tell?

Don't say when I cannot prevail; Life's a grimly-told tale, And none of us it favors well. From the nothingness, which we hail, To having eyes open, wails, What more is here to tell?

#### Windows Of The World

Our windows to the outside world See all there is to be-How many a man and woman fold Their souls into inhumanity. Greenest of greed— These lustful seas Have their waves Crashing in its wake; Those that claim To be holy, And even rows Sailing for the sake Of discovering wealth, Encountering pride, Immeasurable edits On nature's tide. The impossible beckons, For all that reckon We'll make it Through the night. They see his rising, Watch her winding, But they might as well Be clasped, eclipsed, Forgetful of that they'll Keep on shining, And our pleasures shall Be relaxed, dismissed.

#### Wistful

We're numb to those scorned homes
Within this dome that condones
Their destruction.
They're strung at the brink of forlorn zones;
Writhing clones to diagnose
Without action.
We're occupied adorning pink floors, doors, and phones—
Preferring to be alone and shown
Wistful abstractions.

# Wretched Wings

Weathered wings doing wretched things
On my life, wringing everything.
I hear him breathe, as a disease,
Slowly consuming.
I'm not he—no—I believe
It's a fearful illusion.
We were heading to the ceiling
In fusion.
The scream seized this body
In fury of confusion.
These toes curled,
Lifting the power in our world
To block the union.

I've never experienced such force— Such voice.

She said I was laughing, last night, To noise.