

Tumultuous Thoughts



other ideas

Fletcher Dale

Tumultuous Thoughts



Fletcher Dale

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&
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A black and white photograph of a hand reaching out towards concentric ripples on water. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with fingers slightly curled. The water surface is covered in concentric ripples that radiate from a point near the center of the image, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the ripples on the water.

Cast adrift
Amongst life's maze
Untrodden paths
Perpetual haze

Seek for guidance
Struggle on
Searching blindly
Passion gone

Solo journey
Masked within
Tortured yearning
Silent din

Spinning wildly
No revelation
Begging truth
My salvation.



***My imagination
Friend or foe
Fantasy or fear
Both may grow
One strives to unite
One cultivates a divide
This inner turmoil
No place to hide
Faced with choice
In my mind's eye
Yet choose I may
Born free to try
So create I will
And what I see
No sweet pill
Can guarantee
What my future
Place will be
I face this space
My fantasy
Destroy or create
Which will it be
You may well ask
To clear or soil
Lifes telling task
I boldly toil***

As I raced toward tomorrow
I lost my yesterday,
Ignorant it held to sorrow
My mind would have its way,
Caught by a game, with no name
I should shun and turn away.

Too scared to slow the pace
So blind I could not see,
I struggled with the race
In illusion, wild fantasy,
Avoid the one who lived inside
The one I did not want to be.

Yet time has shown the verdict
Just as is and always will,
Life's tapestry is perfect
Experience is life's thrill,
In its diversity and colour,
Simplicity cures all ill.

No random paint splashes
There is no right, no wrong,
Sweetest kiss, or violent clashes
In this throng we all belong,
Oh to learn this precious rule
And turn life's music to a song.

With no where to go, nothing to fix
Each complete and precious part,
Oh cruel mind stop playing tricks
Just to be, this is life's art,
This truth I need to hold so near
To bring me home into my heart.

Embrace me
Face me
Rather than
Disgrace me
Know me
Show me
Rather than
Elbow me

Aside
So wide
The divide
So alone
So prone

To separate
To hesitate
To hold back
Out of lack
And fear

So Queer
Yet so dear
To each other
Father Mother
Sister Brother

You smudge
Hold a grudge
Not budge
So remain
Locked in pain

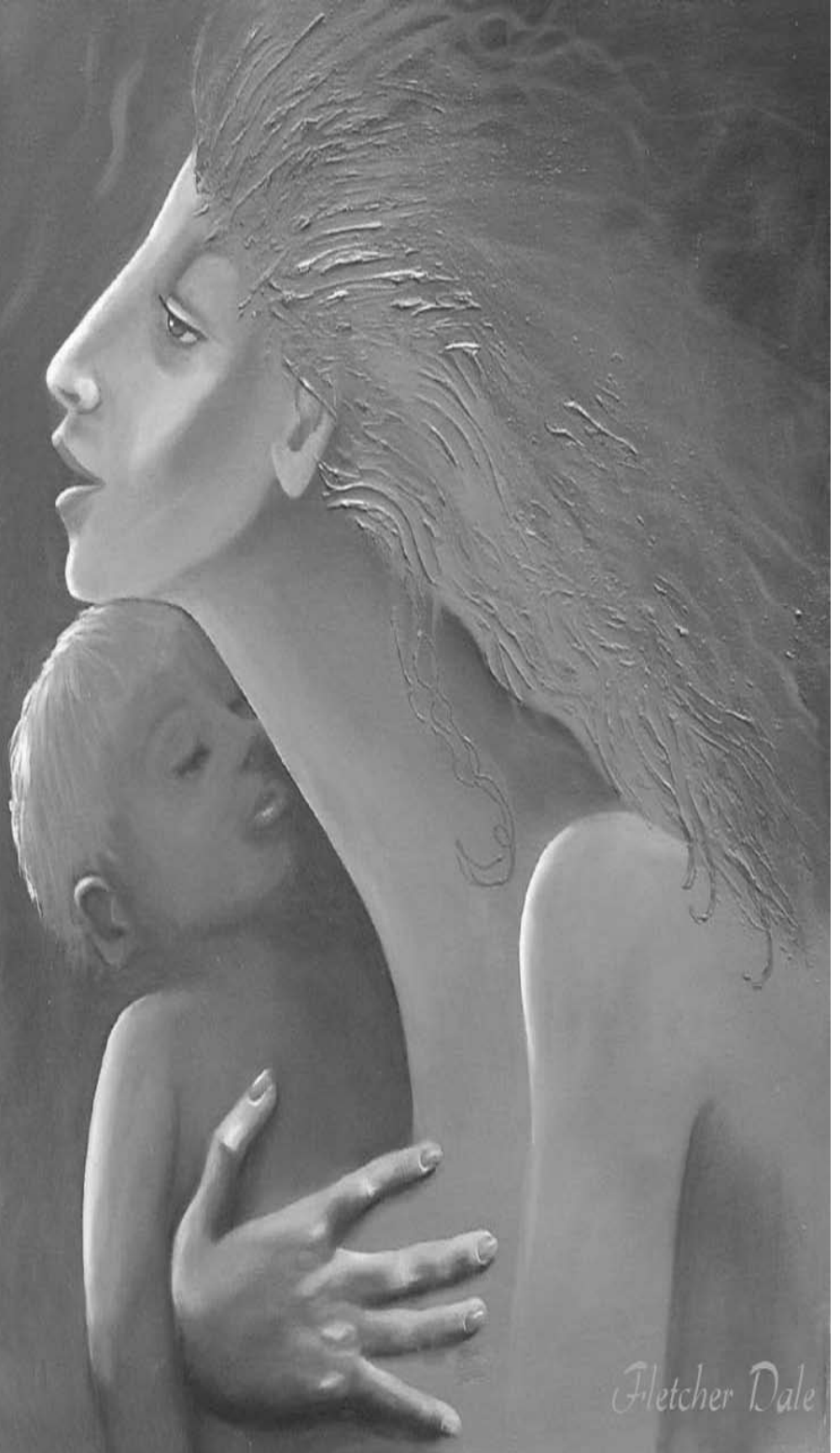
While you feign
All is well
In this hell
Of separation
Desperation
And trepidation

So hide
In your pride
Let's divide
Stay apart
Or maybe start
With open heart
To feel a part
Take your place
And embrace
The human race
Love the tree
Your family

Birth wrenches
forth a cry
Sudden shock
of separation
Alone until
we die
The lonely
realisation

Forever hungry
searching
For one to
fill the ache
In ignorance
so blinding
Of this chosen
path we take

For only
in aloneness
Can man lean
to know himself
To find the way
to wholeness
Each must seek
inside the self.



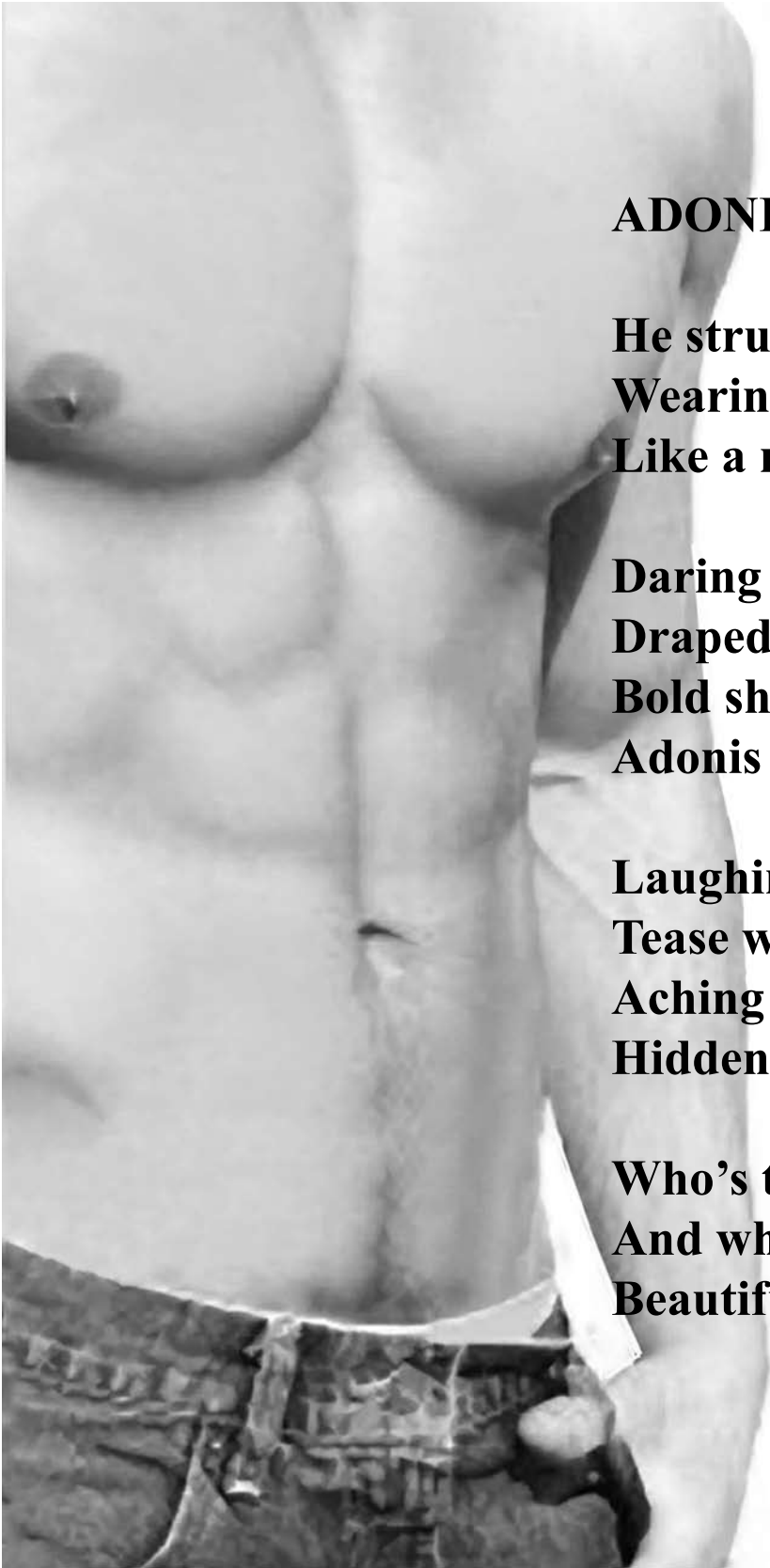
Mother Fire

Acrylic on Canvas

FOREIGN AFFAIR

A storm blew in then left again
From another land, another time
A storm that turned this heart of mine
The wind blew hard, fierce and long
The fires burnt with passions strong
Old ideas were overturned
Old beliefs thrown out and spurned
And all the while the sun shone through
I never will forget you

The storm has gone and left it's wake
A flooded heart but not with sorrow
Just memories sweet, faith in tomorrow
Left with promises of what can be
To live on in my memory
The beauty left behind the storm
Lifts my heart to be reborn
For calm has filled that stormy space
Played a hand and left an ace
I'm not really feeling blue
For I never will forget you



ADONIS

**He struts by
Wearing his youth
Like a medal**

**Daring invitation
Draped across
Bold shoulders
Adonis on the prowl**

**Laughing eyes
Tease with expectation
Aching manhood
Hidden by a towel**

**Who's the bait
And who's the catch
Beautiful boy?**



Dark and Light

I wandered down a moonlit street
To the echo of my scuffling feet
I stopped beneath a lonely light
Devoured of will, pathetic sight
Poignant waif gone astray
Fallen hard I'd lost my way
I longed to hear an angel song
For another soul to come along
I begged to hear musicians play
To lift the gloom where my heart lay
I watched a moth fly in the light
Battering madly bewildered fight
I saw myself in those tattered wings
Beaten down by what life brings
I watched the moth filled with doom
And wallowed in my heavy gloom
But then the moon shone through a cloud
An owl flew by wings beating loud
Moonbeams shimmered upon the street
And suddenly my soul felt sweet
A smile crept in and kissed my face
Sweet symbols of amazing grace
I turned and danced back up the street
My feet now dancing to a beat
The darkness just a passing phase
Light and dark waltz in life's maze
For without the dark I could not know light
Dark and light bestow insight!

Treasure

*In the shadows of my mind
Lurks a treasure hard to find
Now and then it lifts its head
Let's me know that it's not dead
If I could only find a way
To bring this treasure into play*

*Are other people in this bind
This hide and seek within their mind
Or am I the only one I know
That won't allow the seeds to grow
The peace won't come till I give birth
And cast my secrets on the earth
Allow them space to grow with pride
And quell this restlessness inside.*



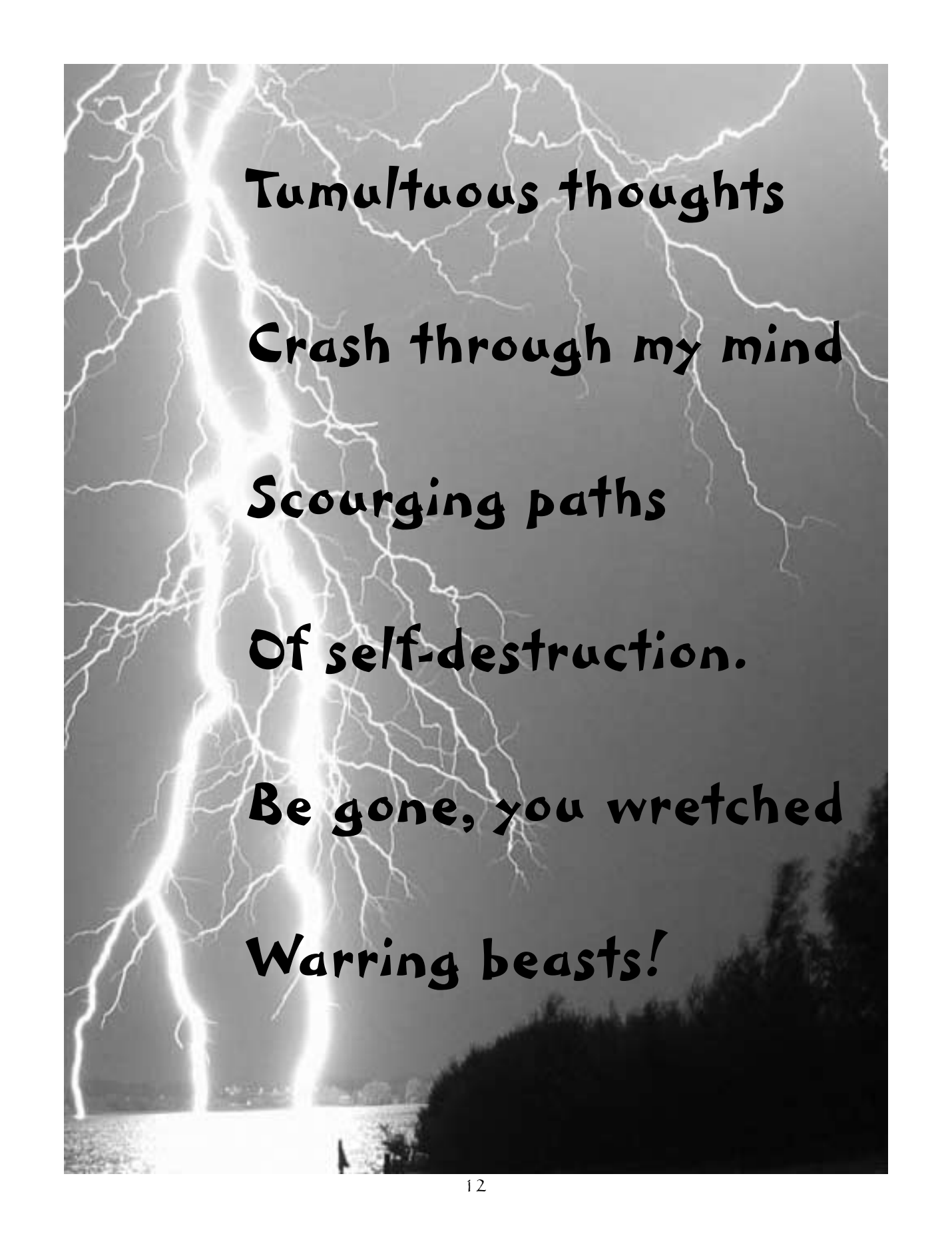
LIQUID PEACE

Striding out one early morning
Out to see a new day dawning
I stumbled on a tragic sight
What a way to spend a night
A bundle on the grass lay curled
Huddled up against the world
News-leaf draped about his form
Bottles strewn upon the lawn
Acrid stench floats in the breeze
I wondered of my life of ease
As I trod upon my way
Questions bubbled into play
What despair, grief of fear
Had bought this wretched soul to here
The loneliness where does it cease





For this poor sod a liquid peace
I pondered then on my own life
Recalled past misery and the strife
My breaking point close at hand
At times my lot I could not stand
I spun about and hurried back
Maybe I could ease his lack
Brushing past a bunch of folk
Who'd seen the man and made a joke
I reached on down and took his hand
Ready then to help him stand
But alas my quest in vain
This man would never stand again
In the silence of the night
God had called him from his plight.

A dramatic black and white photograph of a lightning storm. Multiple bright, jagged lightning bolts strike down from a dark, cloudy sky onto a body of water. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of trees and bushes are visible along the shoreline. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

Tumultuous thoughts

Crash through my mind

Scourging paths

Of self-destruction.

Be gone, you wretched

Warring beasts!

*That endless open journey of
language richly expressed
from the heart....*



Fletcher Dale

Contemplation

Pastel on Paper

MY BABY

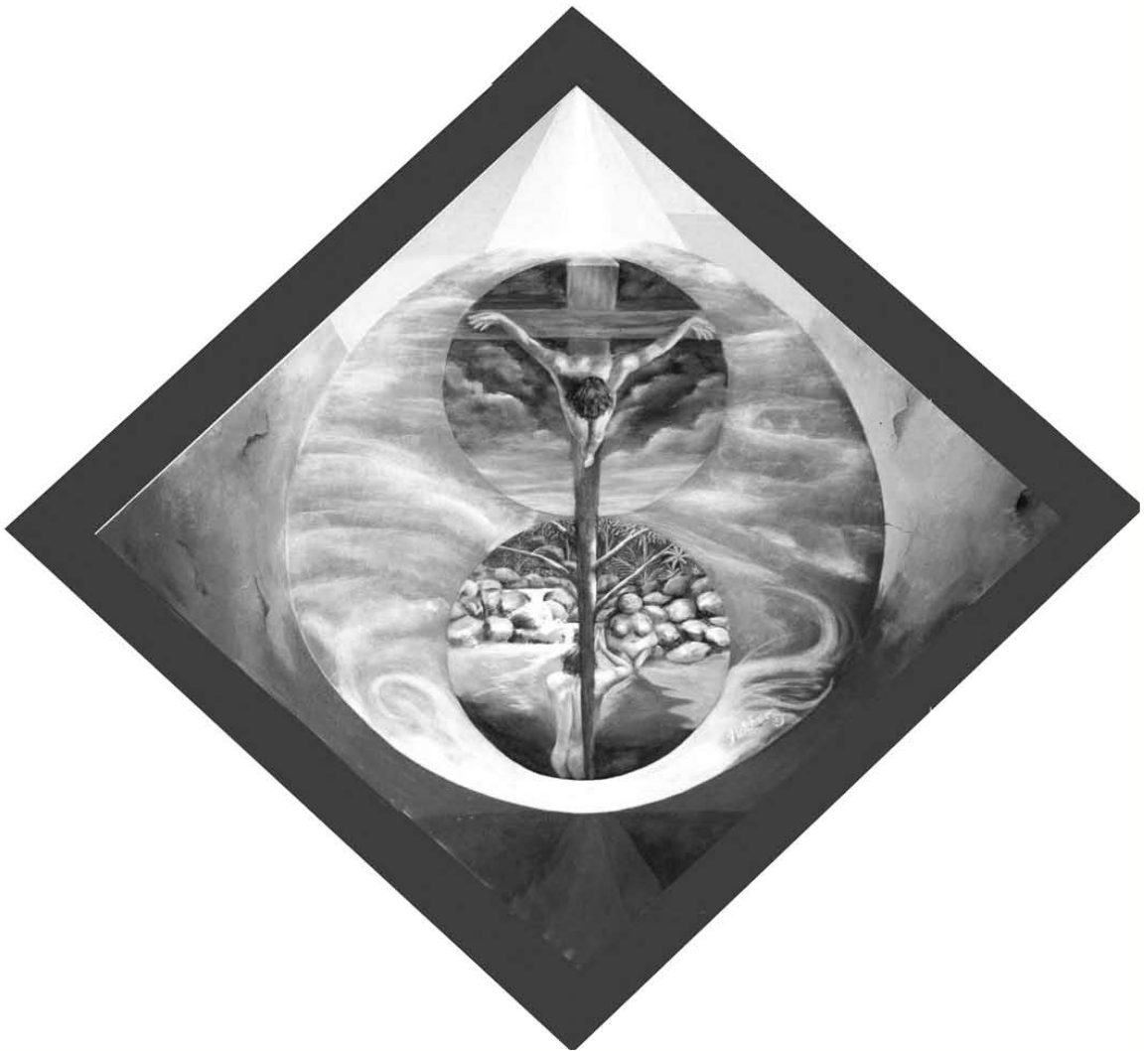
A tiny rosebud
Blossomed in my life
A speck of angel dust
Borrowed from heaven
Her blooming petals
Reach deep inside my heart
Bewitching babe
The birth of love
A precious gift
Undreamed of.....



Delight and Despair

**Fortune my dear friend
Misfortune comrade true
Exquisite pearls of pleasure
Are dear companions too
The emptiness of sorrow
With success walks side by side
Losing faith in my tomorrow
Yet faith's arms spread far and wide
To ball and chain I am bound
Yet I am free, I can't deny
Consumed by wretched shame
As failure paints me blue
Hope lights its golden flame
On gentle wings I flew
Days in the wilderness
Days in the sun
Joy fills my soul
Fear makes me run
Delight and despair
Companions I own
Consumed by a heart
On whose wind I am blown
As fate makes its mark
To all life I embrace
Sometimes the deuces
Sometimes an ace**

Jesus Christ
Attis
Mithras
Osiris
Dionysus



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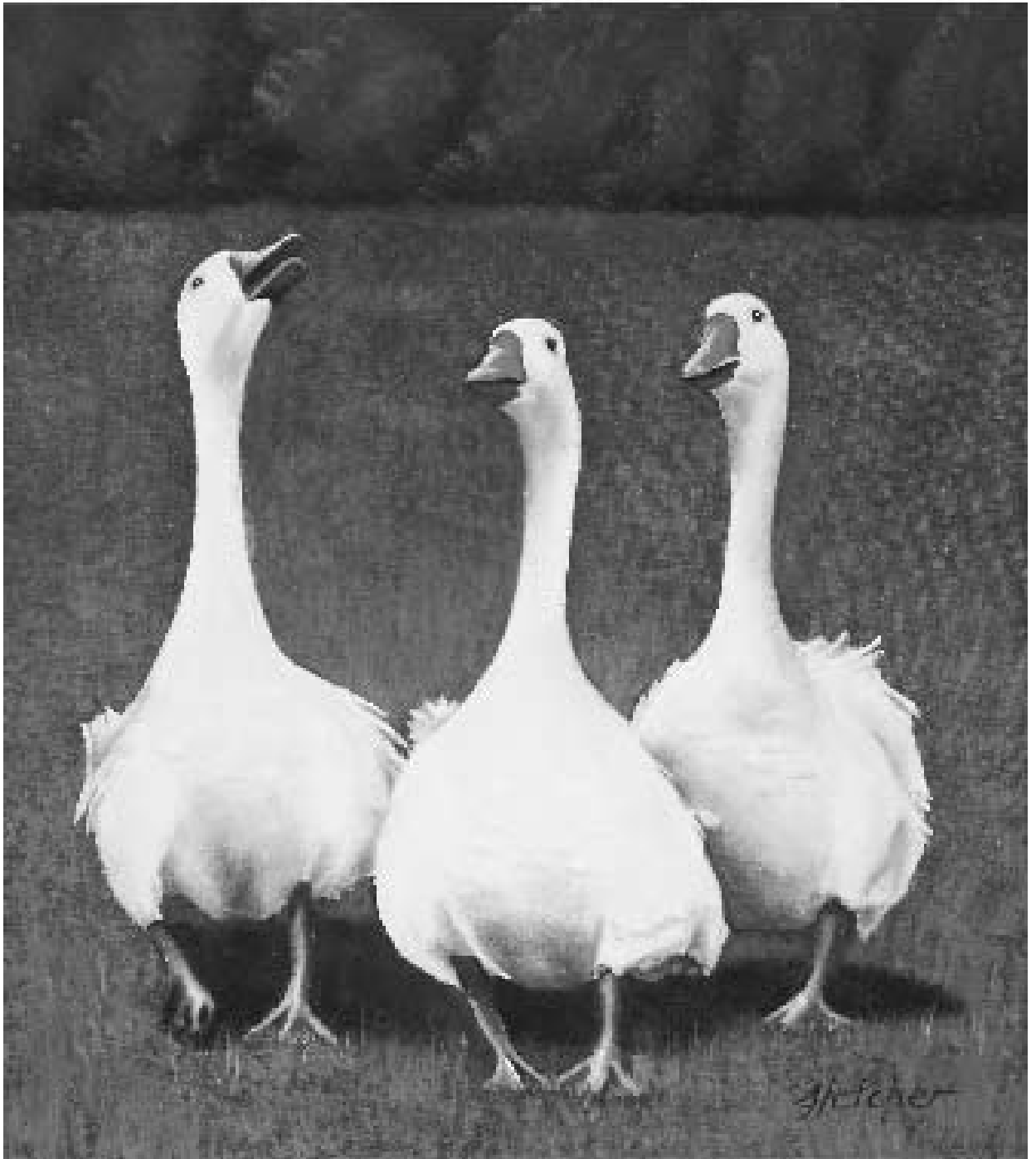
Ψ

It is written in his eyes
Those eyes of melting grey
The tears which once so freely fell
Have long since passed away
Sixteen years give him the means
To let defiance take full sway

Angry red and swollen spots
Mar his still soft cheek
Don't fence me in his battle cry
My fortune I will seek
Green in youthful ignorance
Such courage he can speak

Can't be told a trick or two
His will is cast of steel
It is written in his eyes
His silent lips a seal
Life's roller coaster ride begins
My prayers for him I feel

Now he's out to run the race
I can't be there to mend
The future stretches forth its hand
To pull him round the bend
And I can only wait and pray



Meander and ramble,
Gambol in my garden,
An adventure of the heart

We met
Straight away we knew
Love was calling for our togetherness
We went
Two strangers like old friends
Love grew in us with gentleness
We lost
Ourselves in peace and pleasure
Feasted our hearts with greediness
We gave
Our souls into each other's keeping
Knowing the pain of too much tenderness
We saw
The thorns reach up to sting
Yet heeded not in our blindness
We met spoken words like angry claws
Come face to face with ugliness
We went
And tore our love to shreds
That left us nought but nakedness
We lost
Our beautiful dance of love
Traded now for emptiness
We gave
Away the greatest love we knew
Pushed away into darkness
We saw
From the ashes of loves fire
The error of our shallowness
We met.....

MIND IF I SMOKE?



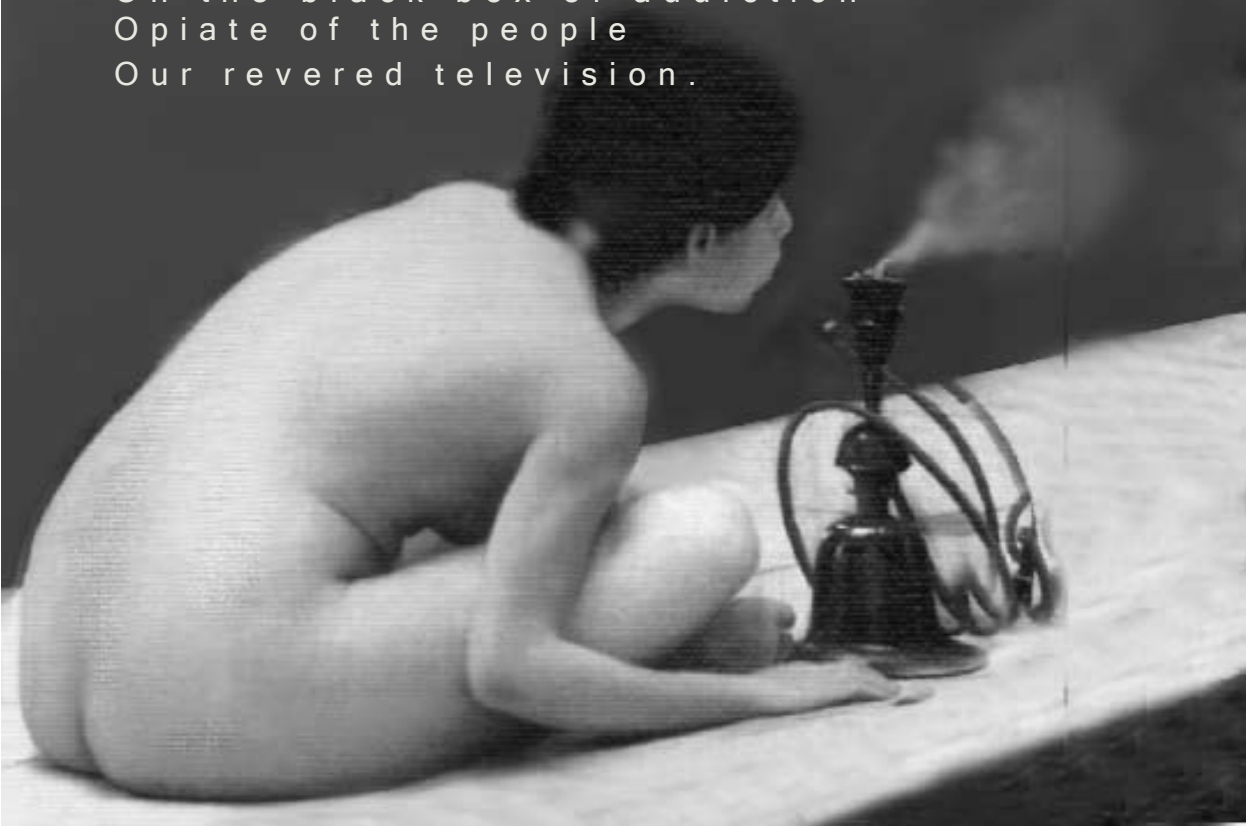
Outcast!
Victim of an attitude
Do you mind if I smoke?
Outside
They cry, horrified
We don't want to die
As they down their pill
To cure some ill
Bought about by an attitude.
No worries
I actually prefer fresh air myself
So I stand upon the shelf
Of their lives
Breathing fresh air between each puff



While they're in there
Despairing over the next episode
Of neighbours.
Outside I watch their neighbours
Watching Neighbours
Watching neighbours
To escape their thoughts
To kill the cell of their sacred hell
As they stagger drunkenly to sleep.
Have you got a cigarette?
Sure
Come onto the shelf
Of my sacred self
Come share with me
I'm not your enemy
I'm just dying from a different attitude.

OPIATE

Drugs
Word that raises hackles
Flag of brilliant red
Waved before the people
Stir fire in their head
While they daily take their doses
Of a most oppressive fix
Needle in the stations
Ten, two, nine and six
Zombied out for hours
Consumed in heart and soul
Escape into another world
That swallows people whole
Shoot up values not their own
Too brain numb to converse
Lose the way to sharing
And not ask who's drug is worse
Programmed to dependence
On the black box of addiction
Opiate of the people
Our revered television.



Where do all the answers hide
For all of those who hurt inside
Strident are their silent screams
Crippling pain, broken dreams
Gripping grief, afraid of change
Their Godless world can't arrange
To search and find a key to the door
Seeking how to suffer no more
If they could see the cosmic joke
That life is playing on all we folk
They'd surely breathe a languid sigh
And choose another road to try



Body, Heart, Mind, Soul

Acrylic on Canvas



*The layers of pain
Lay in my breast
Sight unseen
They gave no rest
Freedom came once I began
To shred this hardened crusty band
For I had built a wall of clay
To close my shielded heart away
Day by day, year by year
I had built a wall of fear
So now I tear it with my hands
It falls away like crumbling sands
Peeled away it revealed a treat
For my heart beneath was truly sweet*



***Shadowed mists of illusion
Swirl in a cloudy sea
Coloured veils of delusion
Whirl me in fantasy
Peel back the film of tinted rose
The masks of Halloween
Let eyes of vision dare expose
Till my naked soul is seen***

I heard a laugh
Across the room
I spun about to see
A sea of strangers
Staring back at me.
Robbed of my amnesia
Plunged back into gloom
I sought the door
As a glass crashed
On the floor
Shattering the silent war
Raging in my heart
Since we're apart.
I left bereft
Each step taking me
Further away, another day
Another hour, the sour
Taste fills my mouth
Venom drips from my lips
Of hurt unspoken, lives broken.
Footsteps slap
The pavement behind
I do not spin, get taken in
Not again, too much to gain
Too much to lose, I choose
To rush off through the rain
Of my bleeding heart
Since we're apart.





MY SONS

They stand beside me strong and tall
Looking now to face it all
Stirring's of the men who slept
Preparing now to cut the strings
Itching hard to stretch their wings
And quietly in my heart I wept
Tears of gladness tears of joys
Fears for my two splendid boys
And for myself some tears I shed
Unlock my arms and let them go
Young arrows shooting from the bow
To their fate they'll now be led.

Fletcher Dale '94

STARVING ARTIST

The Artist Archetype
Dwells in this den
Driven by brush and pen
Burning urge to create
Like God herself
Burning to participate
Undeniably a poet
But who cares to know it
Words dribbled, scribbled
Feeling thoughts nibbled
Across an unread page
Turned yellow with age
Like my face keeping pace
In a race never run or begun
So easily shun.
Beyond doubt a painter
Wielding a wild brush
With strokes of colour
Slashed rashly splashed
Finely timely divinely
To please any eye
The brush will defy any lie.
Painted halls and walls
Yet foul I fare as paint falls
Drips of colour dont hurt
As they embroider my shirt
Ragged tag of shame
An artist with no name

Celebration of Life

Should I attempt to explain
To moralistic souls in pain
That fear and fashion may control
The secret yearning of the soul
To judge another's life as sin
To deny what is by holding in
Is more a sin than fifty men
Please don't judge me once again

For me to live out all taboo
Shouldn't really bother you
If this is where my crime does lie
I tell you now I will defy
How can this be causing strife
A perfect celebration of life.

To stand aside in righteousness
Is persecution nonetheless
Held in chains of self disgust
In panic of your secret lust
You cast your darkness onto me
When I am merely one who's free
Living life out to the full
Refuse to close my eyes in wool

I wish to live not knowing shame
Yet duck and dodge your hurtled blame
It may seem shallow, crass or cold
Maybe even somewhat bold
Who made these rules, who knows how
Life must be lived, to whom you bow

Who says our rules are the way to play
Each one alone must find their way
If sharing closeness warmth and touch
Is disturbing you so very much
Then maybe you should look again
Inside yourself to your own pain
Until I find a better way
I'll celebrate my life this way.

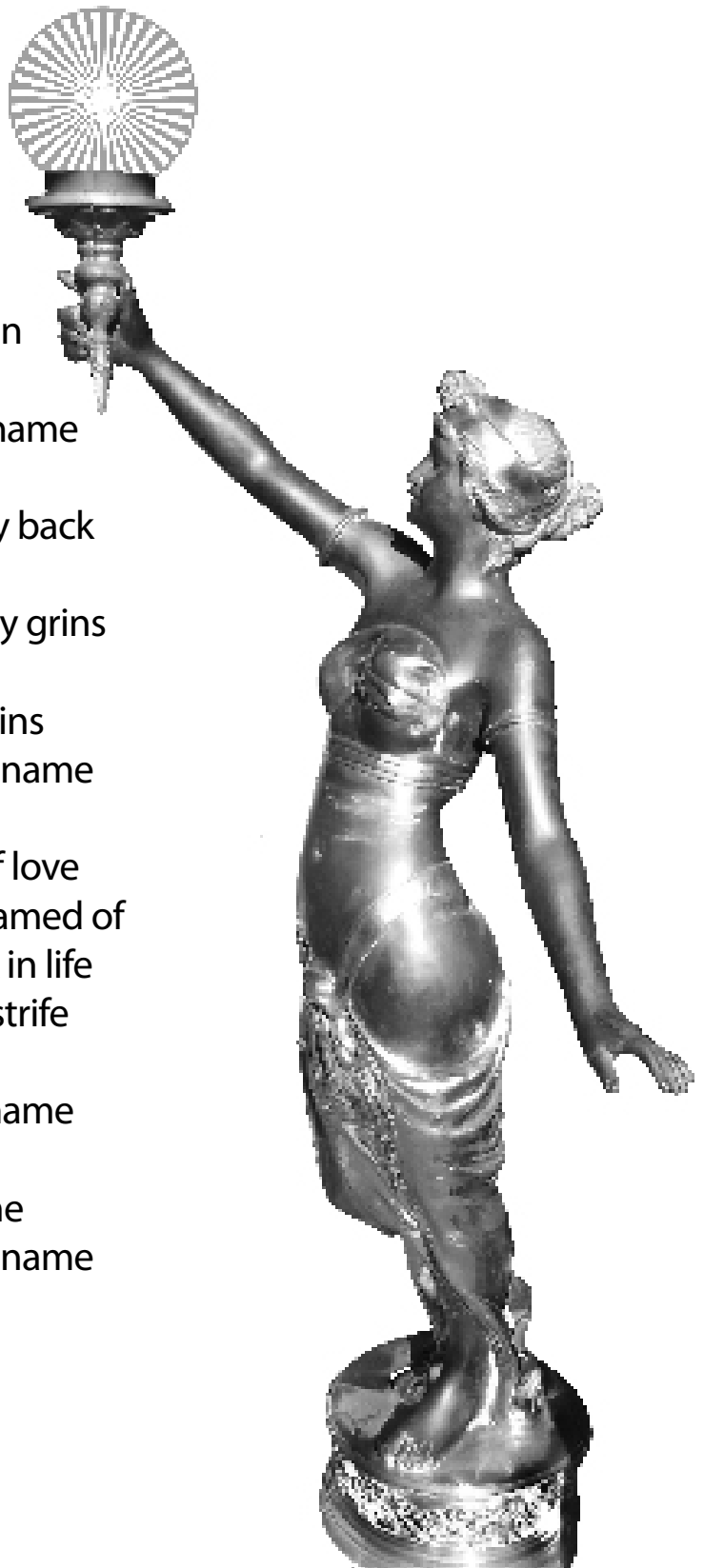
VENUS RISING

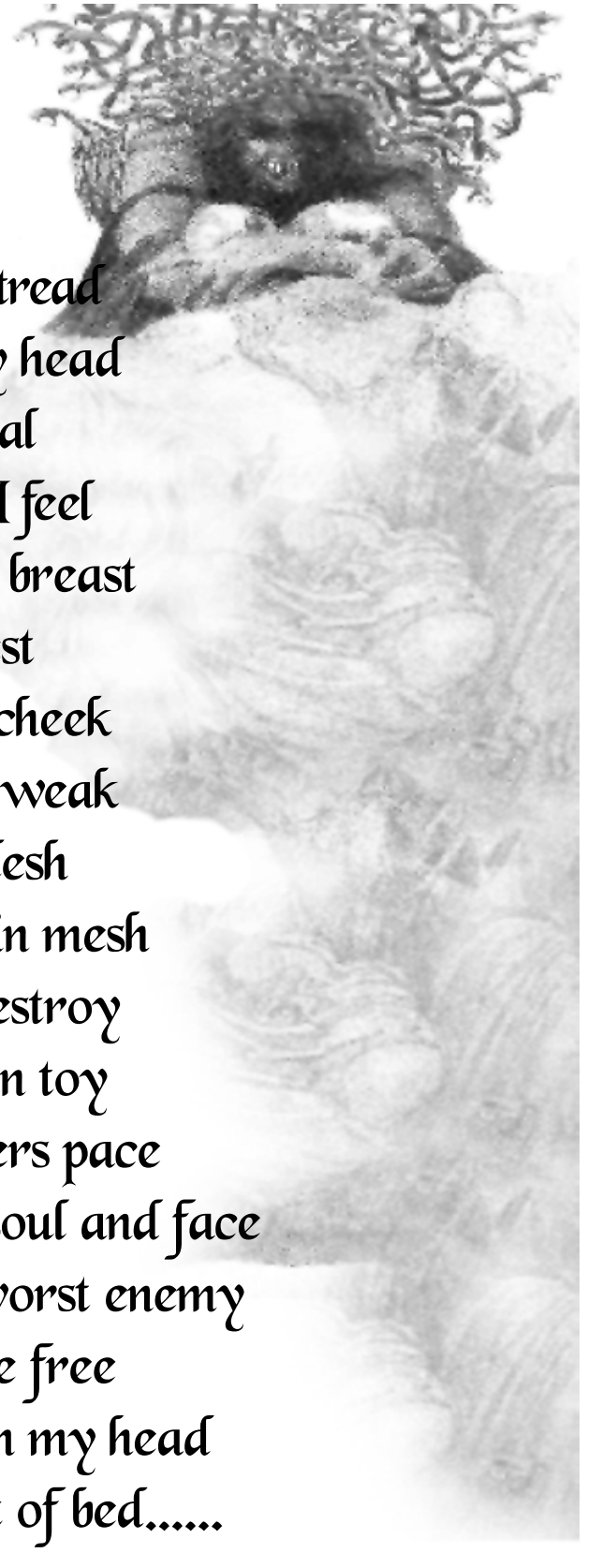
Dirt Schmirt
Who's the flirt
I don't tease or fake to please
Nor get by on a life of ease
By using men for my own gain
I'd rather not deliver pain
Cause pleasure I my second name

Do you really think I break my back
Luring men into the sack
My path is paved with friendly grins
It's not a case of he who wins
It's only you who calls them sins
Cause pleasure is my second name

My journey down the path of love
May not be one that you dreamed of
Whose yardstick do you walk in life
Walk your own or there'll be strife

Yeah pleasure is my second name
Venus rising made her claim
I won't wear a badge of shame
Cause pleasure is my second name





Along a lonesome path I tread
Enemy manacled in my head
A foe nonetheless so real
Hands about my neck I feel
Weight crushing on my breast
Poison rising in my chest
Fetid breath brush my cheek
Fight is gone, I feel so weak
Talons clawing at my flesh
Tie my bleeding heart in mesh
Ruthless fiend out to destroy
Kneads me like a broken toy
Beg to slow this monsters pace
Sweat drenches body soul and face
Seek peace with my worst enemy
Bogus nightmare set me free
To cast this demon from my head
I quickly leapt right out of bed.....

UNBLEMISHED ROSE

She wears such a beautiful smile
Who would guess it's hiding guile
The loneliness it does not speak
The pain it struggles not to peek
Closed away inside her heart
No one knows she stands apart

Hold back and watch a while
As she drowns in the shadow of her smile
No one knows she lives one hell of a pose
She seems such an unblemished rose
While she drowns in the shadow of her smile

If she would only dare to show,
Let go, let someone know
She clasps her very lonely hands
Through life's demands alone she stands
Drowning in the shadow of her smile
Who would guess it's hiding guile
No one knows she lives one hell of a pose
Leaving trails where ever she goes
She wears such a beautiful smile
While she drowns in the shadow of her smile



UNFAIRLY MAYBE

Unfairly maybe
The next man
Will wear the tear
Left in your heart
And wonder why
You cry
He'll hear your sigh
And question why you die
A million deaths

Unfairly maybe
The next man
Will feel the sting
As you fling
His words aside
Or hide behind
Your pride
Arrest the tide
And feel denied

Unfairly maybe
The next man
Will feel the loss
The chill of cold
That fearful hold
Of a heart
Devoured, soured
And scoured
By the heart eater
Unfairly maybe.

Fletcher Dale

PASSION FLOWER



When I let my hair down
When it tumbles, falling unbound
Take my hand, turn me around
Let me in your head
Don't be foolish, thinking
I'm not that kind of gal
Let me tell I am that kind
Looking to hold looking to find
A way into your head
I really love your fingers
I really love your hair
I really love your smiling eyes
Your soulful sighing cries
But let me in your head
We'll travel far in time and space
Minds soaring, flying free to a place
Where fantasy's are found
Where dreams belong, a place of song
Where minds are raw and thoughts will soar
Then tell me of your pleasure
As you wallow in the treasure
Of our passion flower
Oh take my hand and turn me around
Let my hair just tumble unbound
Please let me in your head

DEATH

You came like a thief
In the night
Out of sight
Outwitting breath
Death

You came hunting a soul
No damage control
Voracious patrol
Vitriol

You came in disguise
Seeking your prize
Snubbing our cries
Demise

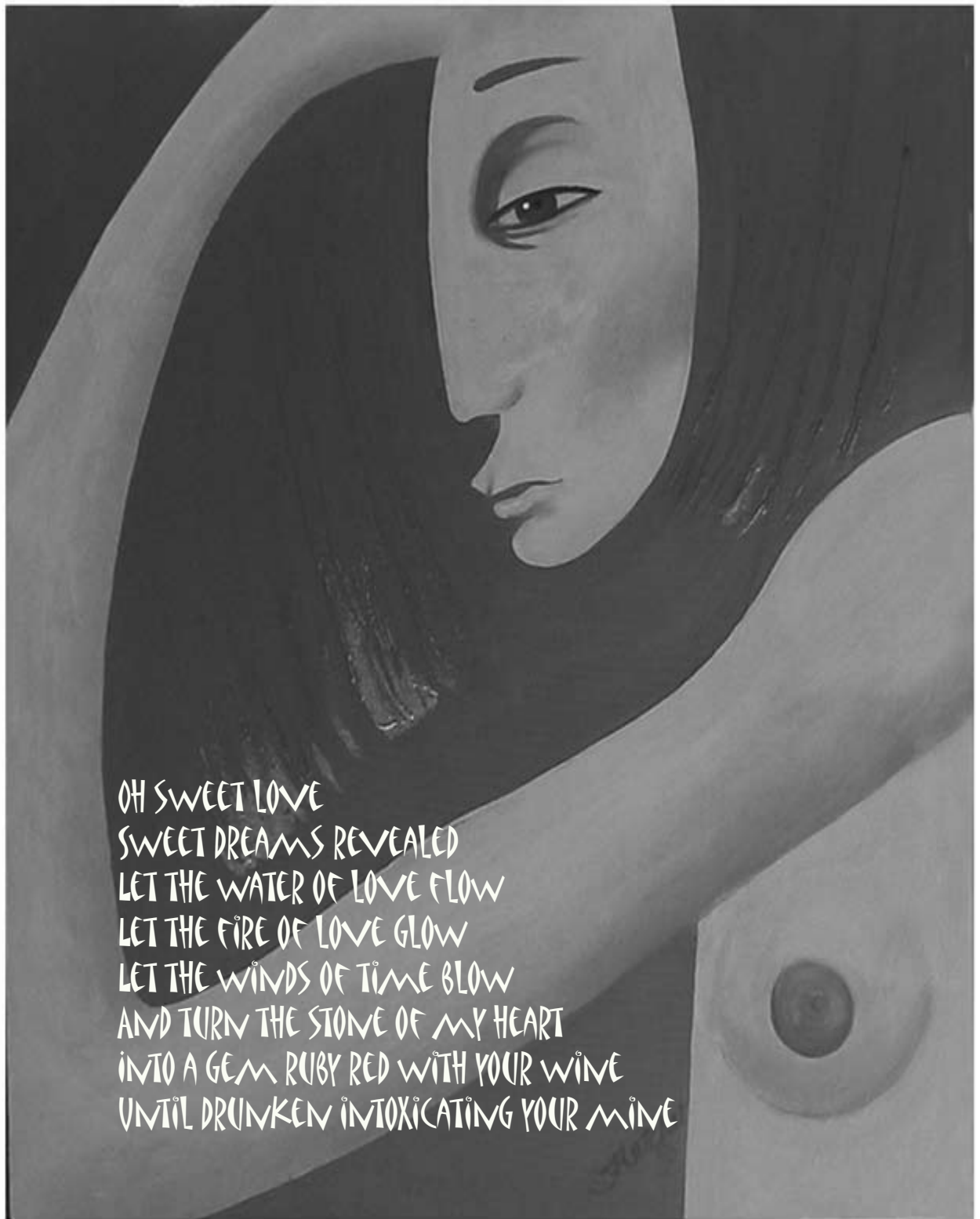
You came no mistake
For heaven's sake
Trailing a wake
Ache

You came stealing life
Rampantly rife
Cutting knife
Strife

You come again and again
Leaving footprints of pain
Loss is your gain
Death's domain
Inane

Youth so fleeting
Centred in self
Moods of rebellion
Such arrogance
Cannot conceive
Nor believe
They will ever grow old
Can't be told
Age with waiting arms
Has many charms
That just as youth is fading
Father time is trading
The ignorance and green
With wisdom
A treasure unseen
And faces like road maps
Tell their story

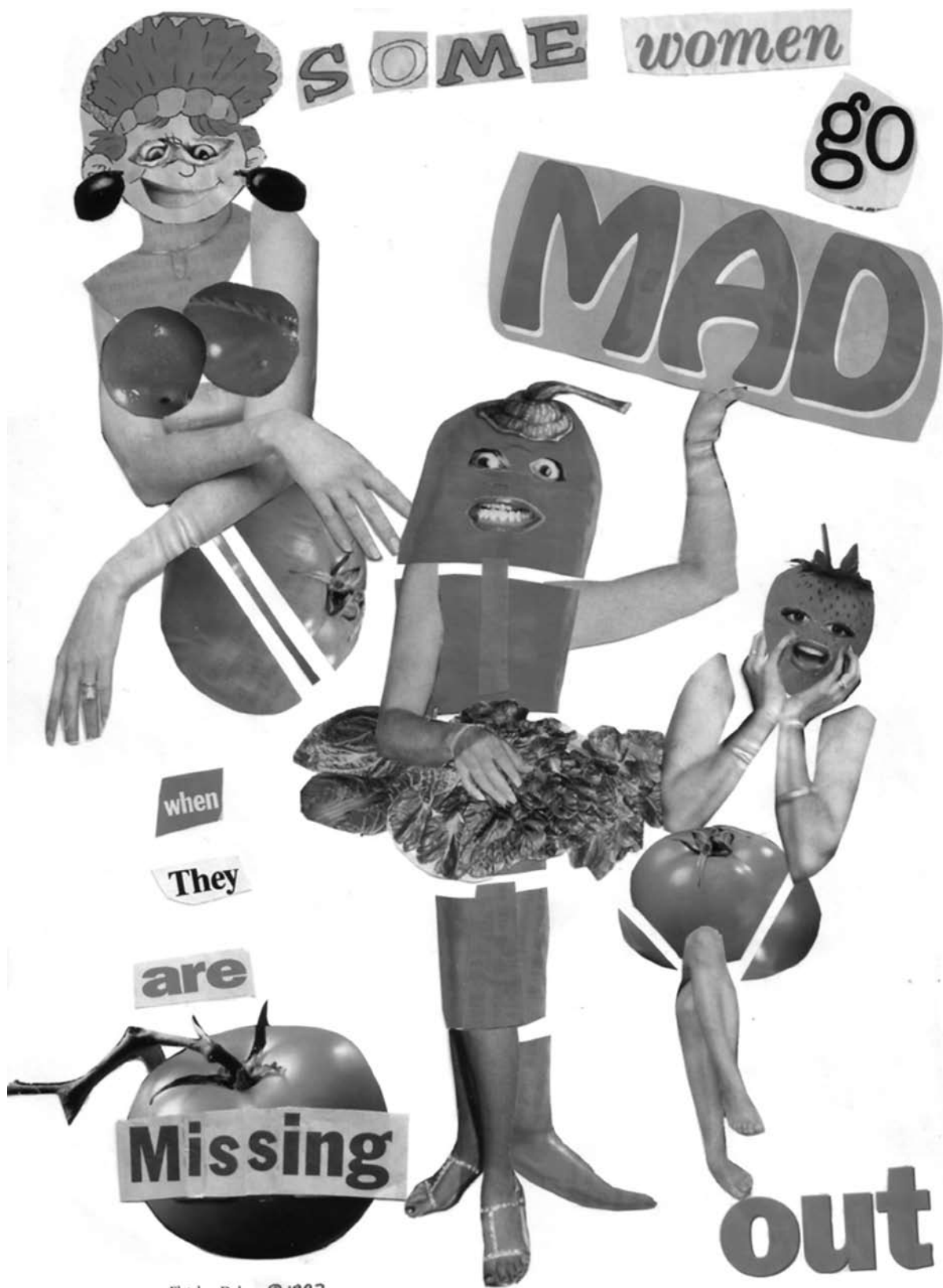




OH SWEET LOVE
SWEET DREAMS REVEALED
LET THE WATER OF LOVE FLOW
LET THE FIRE OF LOVE GLOW
LET THE WINDS OF TIME BLOW
AND TURN THE STONE OF MY HEART
INTO A GEM RUBY RED WITH YOUR WINE
UNTIL DRUNKEN INTOXICATING YOUR MINE

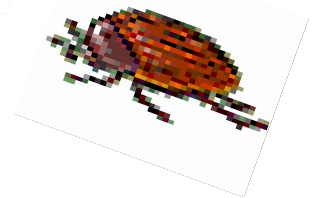
Adam & Eve

Acrylic on Canvas



Fletcher Dale © 1997

But then
Tremors shake my body
Repression's thought long past
Locked away, long forgotten
They swirl within my blood.
Waiting
Buried treasures to surrender
Lying closed within my heart
Hiding there, alive inside
They long to play their part.
Still
The years have been so kind
Truth will show it's face
Surging forth, merging in
Memories rising forth to see



Remember
How the years were wasted
Hiding out blackened fear
Locked away, building walls
Only now understanding
Now
Time and its dark secrets
Values hearken finding face
Rising up, seeking light
The peace of freedom calling
If only
They could cast out judgment
See that I am being led
Another way, foreign play
Emerging through my flesh.

If only I could take your hand
And lead you through
The corridors of my mind
Then you may understand
The fabric of our dreams
Are not one of a kind.
So I must away
Flee the grey
For coloured fields
A savoury sea
(And me!



Fletcher Dale

Green Ants

Acrylic on Board



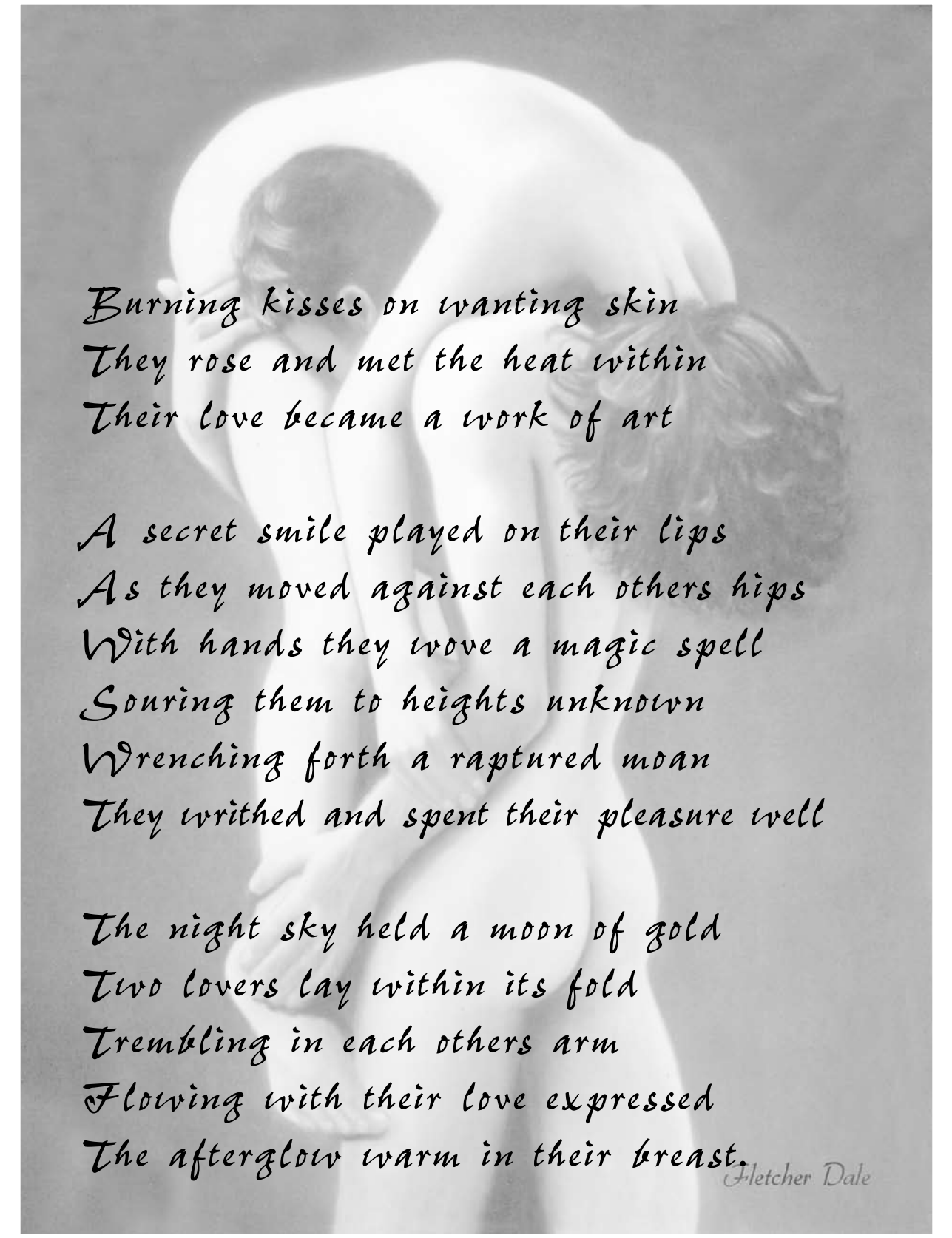
LOVERS

The night sky held a moon of gold
Two lovers lay within its fold
Silver clouds drifted by
To witness here this act of love
A canopy of stars above
Heard and held the languid sigh

Their bodies shone with inner glow
Like golden honey love did flow
Their forms caressed, their hearts did yield
The music rising in their ears
Drowning out all secret fears
Passion shared on moon drenched field

The yearning fires slowly fanned
They touched and teased with their hand
Hot and flushed, with pounding heart

Fletcher Dale



*Burning kisses on wanting skin
They rose and met the heat within
Their love became a work of art*

*A secret smile played on their lips
As they moved against each others hips
With hands they wove a magic spell
Souring them to heights unknown
Wrenching forth a raptured moan
They writhed and spent their pleasure well*

*The night sky held a moon of gold
Two lovers lay within its fold
Trembling in each others arm
Flowing with their love expressed
The afterglow warm in their breast.*

Fletcher Dale



REUNITED

I sit and count the years
Which will soon become the days
As I dream about the ways
That we will greet and say hello

Will it be with joy and love
So keen to fill the years
Or filled with awesome fears
One or both of us afraid to give

Oh, child of my body
Can you ever comprehend
My mistakes too late too mend
A lifetime spent in deep regret

Can your heart reach out with love
Find forgiveness in your soul
To fill in this wretched hole
That pursues me year by year

I dream of all the ways and days
With delight within our hearts
As we fill in the missing parts
A mother and child united at last.

**Patience rides the sea of time
Tomorrow just an aching dream
In sweetness lies the tang of lime
To dare the passion so sublime
Delving deeper to redeem**


**Play the chequer board of life
Fragile paths that criss and cross
Fortune offered with the strife
Yet hack it with the cursed knife
As silence screams the loss**

**Ever hungry lies the lust
In naked shameless fashion
Stealing love and stealing trust
As sterile hearts turn to dust
While heaven mourns the passion.**



Gay Man

Black eyes sparkle out their secret
Loud the drum beat in your chest
Inside myself the echo calling
To this most unwelcome guest
A magnet works to draw together
Two lives not meant to cross
You feign such cool indifference
While black eyes speak their loss
Don't stir too deep the shadows
Feelings scorned and cast asleep
Your dangled bait I will not take
Until black eyes start to weep
So struggle with the magnet
Till it turns upon itself
While black eyes dull in misery
And consume your secret self.



*Eyes met
Like clashing swords
Tongues lashed
As biting words whipped
From turgid throats
Masks exploding
Into shattered fragments
Vomiting blackness
Into the litter of their love
Then eyes met
Glistening pools of shame
Grasping arms entwined
As lips seared beneath fear
For they were afraid.*

She watched him walk across the bar
As she sipped on her bourbon and coke
But her perfect features did not mar
When she thought how this game was a joke
Her lovely legs curled round the stool
As he made his way through the crowd
Here's another I'll have for a fool she thought
As she sat there tall and proud

"Lovely lady remember me,
You with the beautiful feet"
"Why no good man" (Who could he be)
As she fidgeted there on the seat
"You mean you don't remember
How could you ever forget
It was only last December
The first time that we met"



The Tart



In tortured pain she racked her brain
Was he Bill or Allan or Ted
Where was the gain
When with so many you'd lain
Lured man after man into bed

In feigned delight "It's you" she cried
"We shared such a passionate night
But something inside suddenly died
When she realised She hadn't been right
In shameful pose a blush arose
She desperately wanted to flee
"No silly woman" As he turned on his toes
"I sold you your gym boots you pea"



The whore and the holy one
The she who all have shun
She who is lost and hid
She who holds all within
Shameless and ashamed
Named and unnamed
Mother of earth's progeny
Graciously her heart can see
Blessing all before the fall
Now seeking hearts burn
Yearning her return



*Oh My goodness
Where's the
Goddess?*

SOLITUDE

Birth wrenches forth a cry
Sudden shock of separation
Alone until we die
The lonely realisation

Forever hungry searching
For one to fill the ache
In ignorance so blinding
Of this chosen path we take

For only in aloneness
Can man learn to know himself
To find the way to wholeness
Each must seek inside the self.

M

A

M

A

Try to understand me,
Mama,
I'm really not so bad,
If you would know me
You'd like me, I'm surely
Oh mama,
Needing you so badly,
Crying for your hand,
Mama
What do you fear
When I come near
To see only bad
Leaves me so sad
I hear you groan
At the unknown
From what I lack
But things just don't stack
Oh mama,
Don't turn your back
I cannot conceive
Refuse to believe
You do not care
You are not there
Please don't slide away
Into the grey
Oh mama,
Why is it so hard
Come back mama
I need you.



ODE TO BACCHUS

'We won't shop there' the platypus cry
A community bound those on high we defy
Rally and tally and band at the fence
A tree tall and proud stands in defence
Corporates keep out, please stay away
Local business will flourish, if they're kept at bay.

Yet another tree grows on the heart of the hill
Branches embracing the heavens they fill
Only a possum sees the blood on the ground
For blood sweat and tears fall without sound
Offered with love, Goddess grow free
Yet who climbed in defence, this grand old tree?

A garden of beauty, a haven of grace
Shunned by the town, a sneer on their face
Where no platypus died or cowered in fear
No Cornerstone, Woollies or Deen Brothers here
No need raise a million, one, two or three
Just one simple sandwich, a coffee or tea





We don't need beauty, 'We won't shop there'
You're not one of us, why should we care
A community bound gave not a thought
So a garden has died for lack of support.

Only then do they come, the hyenas rush in
Picking meat off the bones is hardly a sin
A bargain's a bargain, who counts the cost
A community bound cares not for who lost
And a koala says business is no place to feel
With hidden agendas why honour a deal
Send in the jackals, skim cream off the top
Leave as it stands or we'll call in the cops.

No matter who's dream, tears money or sweat
Is washed down the Obi, the town will forget
Closed hearts make it easy, the possum has died
Too few even cared and not a soul cried
For beauty and caring don't rank a place
In a community bound defending their space.



me stressed?

When

I Go

YOU

can't

Simply
nuts

See

My

Value!

VALUE

VALUE

VALUE



Companion of flesh and blood
Come share the joy and woe
In the struggle and the faltering
Please don't turn about and go
Why not stay and share the laughter
Drown with me in tears
In the sordidness and splendour
We could fill a million years....



Fletcher Dale

Changes come
Changes go
Let it flow
Memories fade
Today becomes yesterday
Tomorrow today

A door closes
Another opens
Paving the way
To live again
To love again
To win and grow
And spin again
Another dream



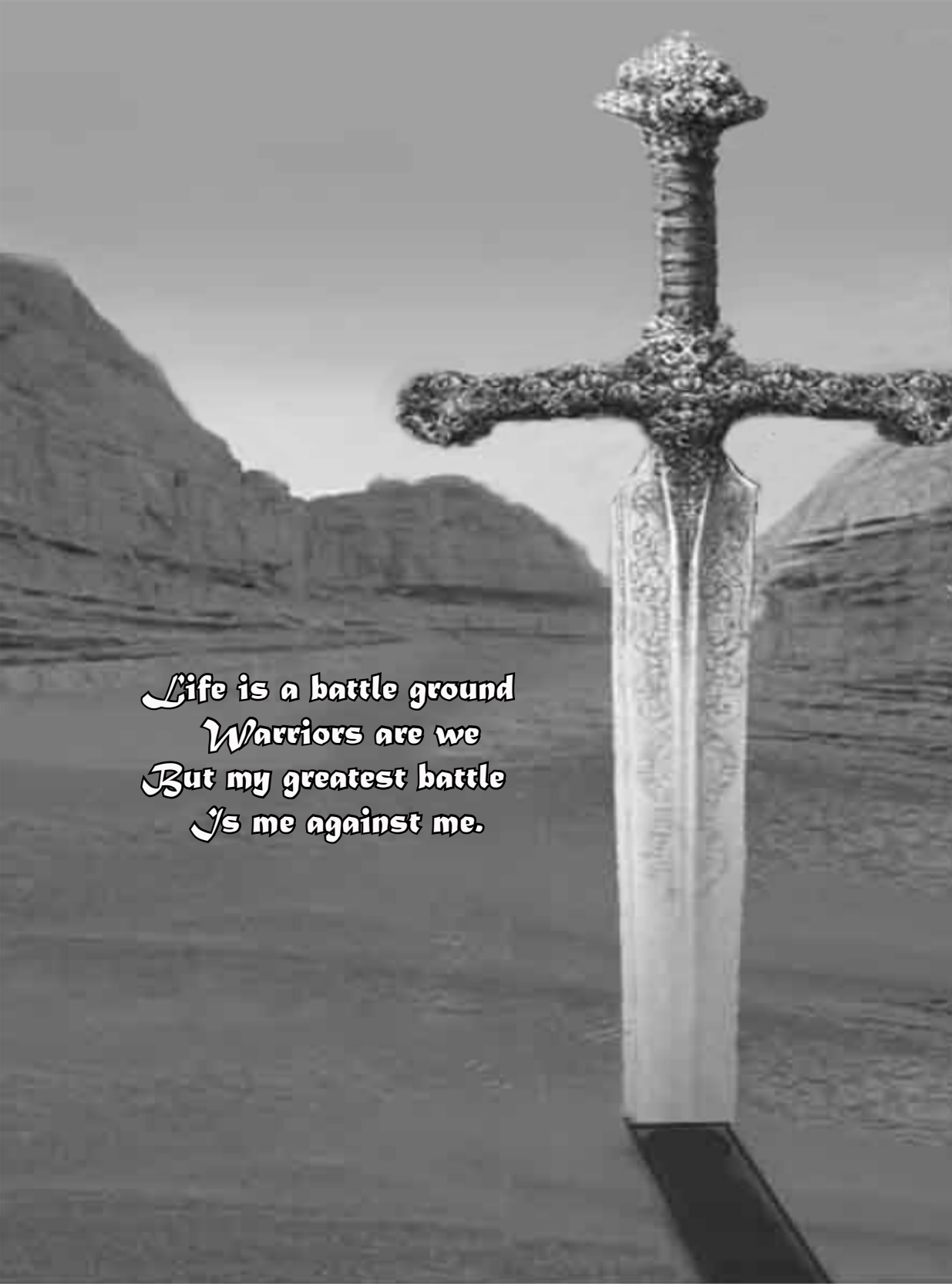
So choose to use
Each precious moment
Like it's the last
Then the past
The yesterdays, tomorrows
And todays
Know no regret



BATCHELOR BOY

The penny fell,
Denting my head.
Held apart,
From the start
Twisted laughter
No love ever after
For this bachelor boy.
I can live without forever,
I can live without his love
But I won't live with lies
Black or white, feeble alibis
Nor grapple with
Some masked disguise
Seedy second prize.
He played me wrong,
Stole the song,
We sang, driving along,
On roads to nowhere.
Batchelor boy
Feeding empty lines,
Sucked in, no win,
Use us as a toy
Batchelor Boy
And then destroy
That slippery smile
Hides your guile
It worked for a while
But then I grew, I knew
I would renew,
While he's stuck, tough luck,
In fear, poor dear,
In his ugly bachelor boy world





*Life is a battle ground
Warriors are we
But my greatest battle
Is me against me.*



A lover's heart
May break apart
You see it in their eyes
But God is wise
For life's surprise
Is broken hearts
Don't end - they mend



LOVER

You played me to a quiver
Surrendered unto love
Breathless wings transported us
To somewhere far above
Like musician with his instrument
Into my depths you strum
Our music echoed back to us
Till quivering we come
Supine beneath a blanket
Of unity and bliss
You my love
Had touched my soul
With the sweetness of your kiss.....

LOST DAD

**Sitting at the corner table
Over coffee and cream pie
A notice in the lost and found
Printed loud it caught my eye**

**“Lost my Dad for many years
Hasn’t really been much fun
Need him here to dry my tears
To kick a ball in the sun
To show me how to work with wood
Wish he’d teach me how to swim
To see him now would be real good
Anyone know a man named Jim
He’s six feet tall and really strong
I think his hair is long and black
I haven’t seen him for so long
So if you know him send him back”.**

**Sitting at the corner table
Heartache welled up inside
On the page I saw his face
I lay my head down and cried
Then madly brushing at the tears
I blindly raced and flagged a cab
An end to all those empty years
My son is calling for his dad.**



Shun me if you must like some strange disease

Taunt and tease if you please

Break my bones and blue my skin

But you should know you'll never win,

I stare you in the eye and never cry,

For I am friends with the wind

That blows a million dreams

You will never break my will Mama

Cause I'll need it when i leave here...



Fools Parade

I was never seen by you
An apparition of a twisted blind
That wraps and warps a wayward mind

You carver-up of hearts
A divided self divides
Turned inside out, curved outside in
Too late I see no light gets in

Yes I tripped, fell through the crack
Too blind to see a heart skewed black

I was never seen by me
Trust and faith can draw a blind
Censored by naive mind

A sculptor of reality
A divided self divides
Spun inside out curled outside in
Too late I see no truth gets in

Yes I tumbled, tripped on fact
Forced to face my own lack

Head buried deep in sand
Confronted by the light
Duped once more by my own hand
Only father time brings sight

Now I cannot linger longer
On this foolish fools parade
Instinct daily growing stronger
Bought an end to this charade




My VERANDAH

Inviting entrance to my lair
Rebuilt with love and extra care
Calling friend and stranger in
Raindrops singing on the tin

Morning sun streams on the floor
Papers spread their news of war
Stars tell promise and a win
Sweet coffee helps the day begin

Cool breezes ease the soaring heat
The family of an evening meet
Discuss the events of the day
Then a game gets underway



Flickering candle softly glows
The face of love it's dancing shows
Sweet nothings whispered in the night
When life and everything is right

Glasses clink and laughter rings
Songs of love and other things
Friends debating to and fro
No one in a rush to go

Greenery bright against white wood
Old cane chairs still pretty good
A lovely place to pass the time
The verandah on this home of mine.



**Beautiful Brazil,
Travel far in time and space,
No shadows mar your lovely face.
Young and beautiful Brazil,
Pierce me with your heart,
Pierce me with your soul,
Pierce me with our body
Beautiful Brazil.**

LOVE SHACK

NO. 3

News flash at 64

Residents should lock their door
Close the windows draw the blind
Get your earmuffs by the gate
Hurry now or you'll be late
This complex is a house of sin
Since folks in no.3 moved in

In the silence of the night
You'll likely take an awful fright
Sounds that echo through the air
Wanton willful wayward passion
Played aloud in noisy fashion
Pull the pillow on your head
Or you'll be drawn into their bed

Inside we know it's very hot
But we're concerned about the lot
Of residents at 64
Corrupted by the wild beasts
Who insist on sharing all their feasts
So lock your door front and back
Cause no.3's a 'Love Shack'.

This poem was put in the letterbox of no 3 and we never heard another sound...

THERE'S A LOT TO LIKE ABOUT

men

especially

Beauty

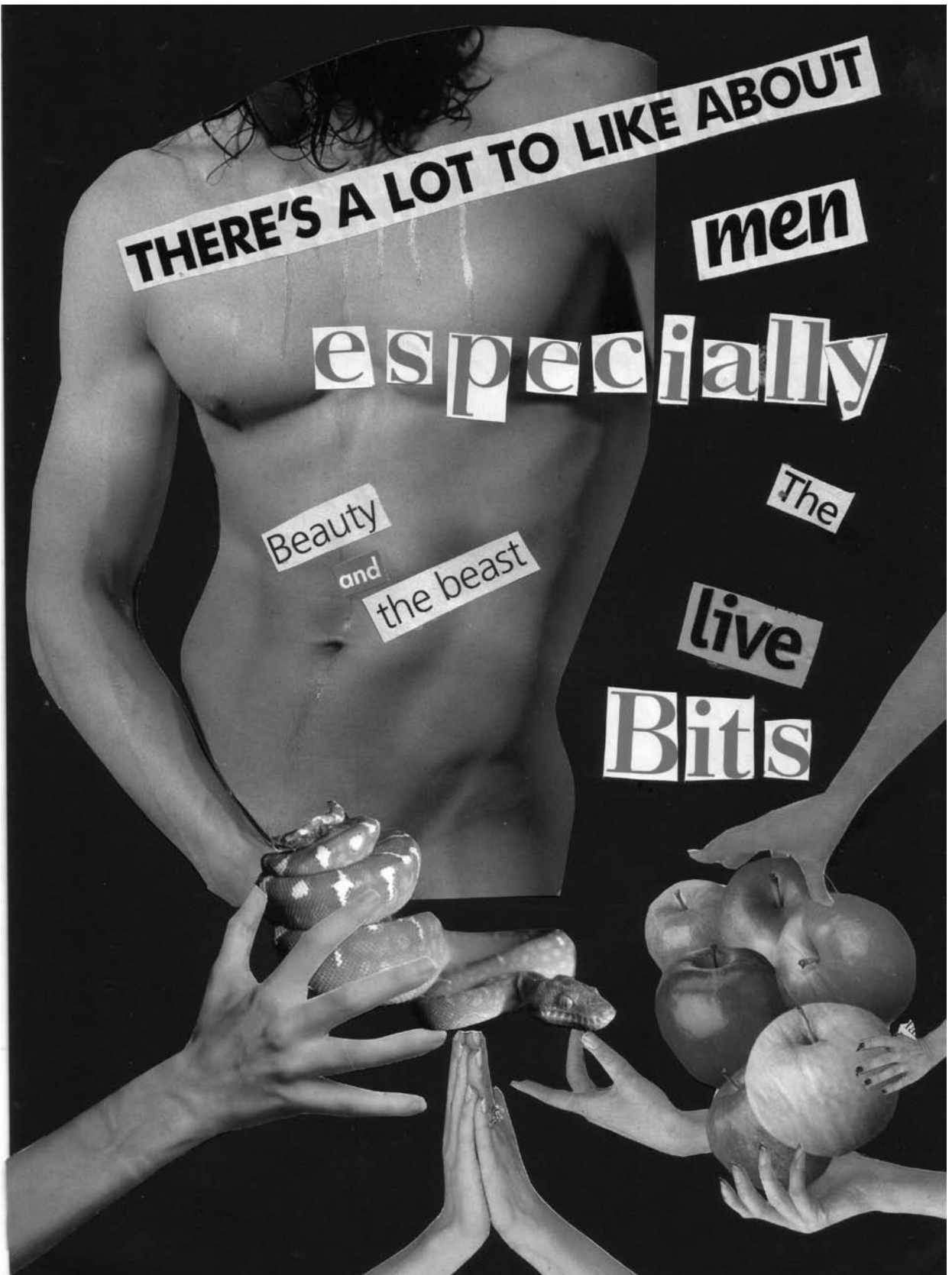
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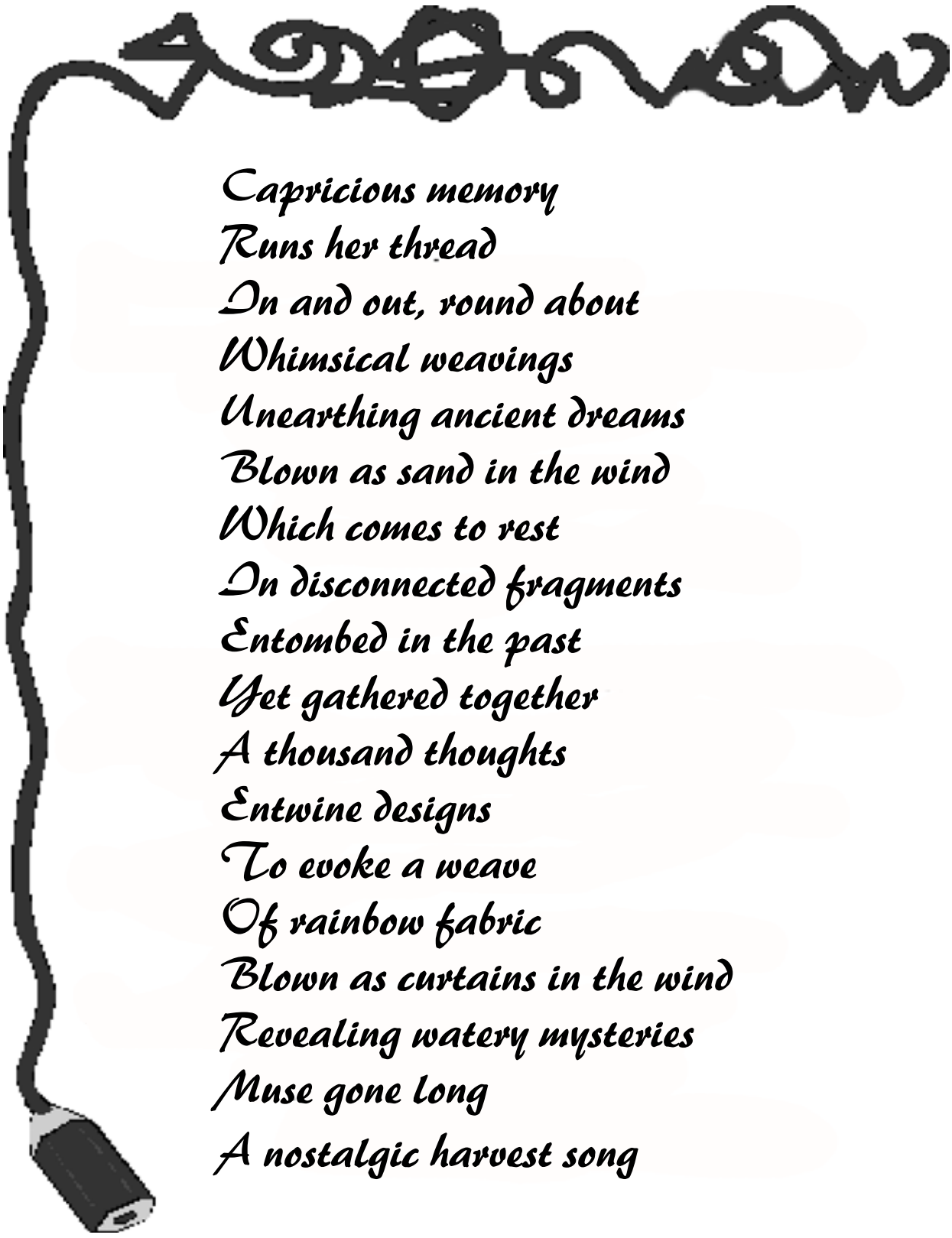
the beast

The

live

Bits





*Capricious memory
Runs her thread
In and out, round about
Whimsical weavings
Unearthing ancient dreams
Blown as sand in the wind
Which comes to rest
On disconnected fragments
Entombed in the past
Yet gathered together
A thousand thoughts
Entwine designs
To evoke a weave
Of rainbow fabric
Blown as curtains in the wind
Revealing watery mysteries
Muse gone long
A nostalgic harvest song*



Words
have
a life
of their own,
the expression
of who we are.....

Words,
flimsy and invisible
tossed like confetti
into the wind.....

Words
meander and ramble
scribbled randomly
till pages run.....

Words
inspiringly palpable
pitched passionately
across the table

Words
vague and shadowy
unheard 'n detoured
hang hauntingly

Words
broken or unspoken
swallowed whole
by a gullible soul

Words
forcefully vigorous
tossed as dice
to seduce or reduce

Words
once
released
you can
never call
them back....



Words
Conscious and wise
dealt lucidly
create meltdown

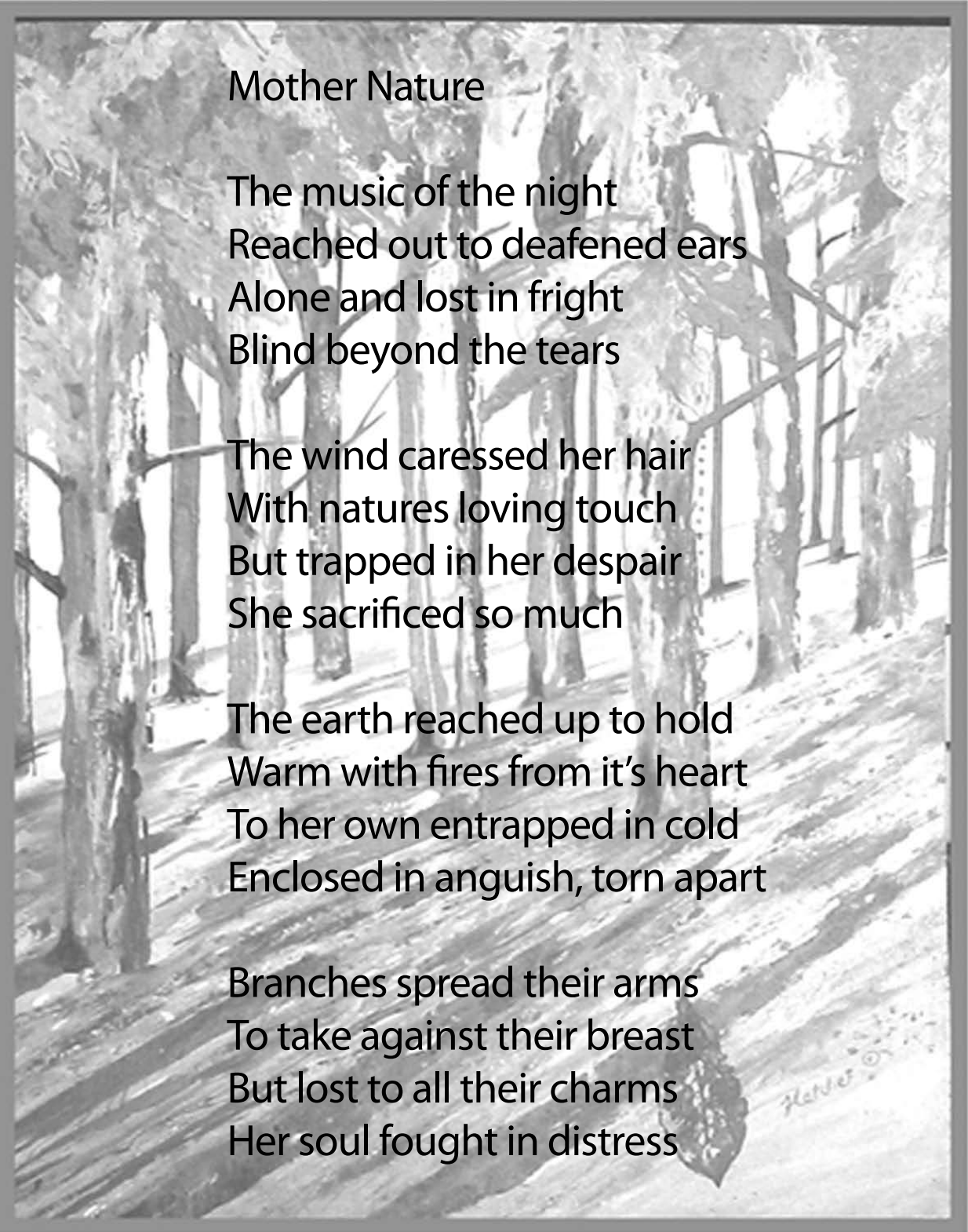
Words
unswerving blunt
flipped carelessly
make you or break you

Words
muddy and wilted
stained with discontent
bore, bewilder annoy

Words
rhetoric and interrogation
pitched disquietly
stir trepidation

Words
sweet and tender
melodiously flung
soothe, ease and heal

Words
Sputter and spit
Licked and twirled
making misery
or mirth.....



Mother Nature

The music of the night
Reached out to deafened ears
Alone and lost in fright
Blind beyond the tears

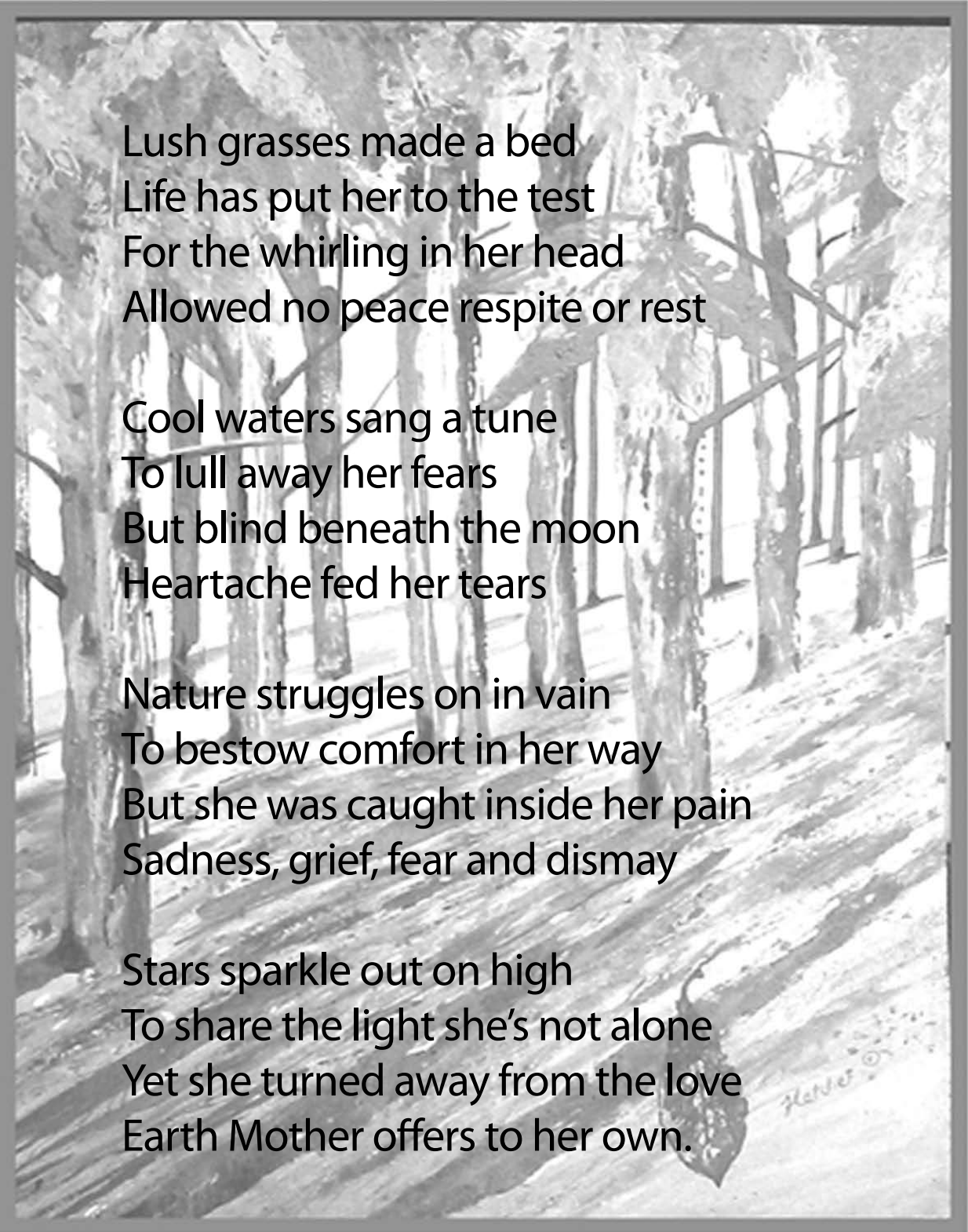
The wind caressed her hair
With nature's loving touch
But trapped in her despair
She sacrificed so much

The earth reached up to hold
Warm with fires from its heart
To her own entrapped in cold
Enclosed in anguish, torn apart

Branches spread their arms
To take against their breast
But lost to all their charms
Her soul fought in distress

Autumn

Acrylic on canvas board



Lush grasses made a bed
Life has put her to the test
For the whirling in her head
Allowed no peace respite or rest

Cool waters sang a tune
To lull away her fears
But blind beneath the moon
Heartache fed her tears

Nature struggles on in vain
To bestow comfort in her way
But she was caught inside her pain
Sadness, grief, fear and dismay

Stars sparkle out on high
To share the light she's not alone
Yet she turned away from the love
Earth Mother offers to her own.

Autumn Acrylic on canvas board

**I slowly detected
A mountain erected
A solid stone wall**

**I could no longer miss
Our sharing and bliss
Had come to a crawl**

**For my child decided
Ideas had collided
She would to no longer call**

**Not Mother, or friend
Could this be the end
I crumble and bawl**

**An illusion is shattered
Heart's feeling battered
Left bruised by the fall**

**I am blue oh so blue
To have failed her true
Now I'm feeling so small**

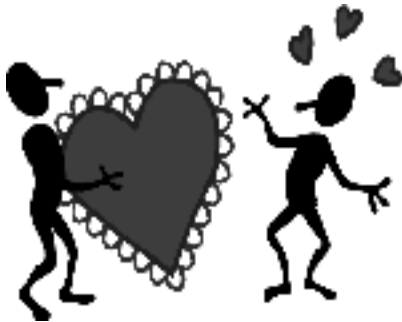




Next time you use the wc
think of me
take a deep breath
remember our death
and think of me.
you think your shit don't stink
rethink
see your face go pink
yes go on blush
as you flush
see my face
in that place
sewer here | come
when you're done
crapping on my love



Tis Love



We met
And yet
We forget
We danced
We pranced
We dalliance
The lust
A must
We trust



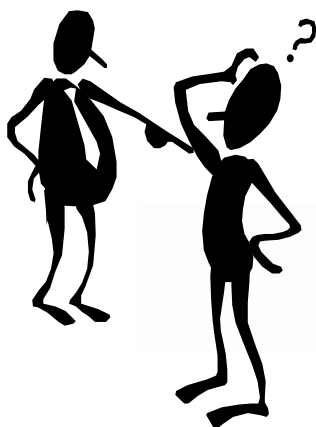
We re' kind
We wined
We dined
We flew
So new
Knew why
We said
We re' led
To wed



We thought
We ought
So bought
A house
So grouse
He roused
We strained
We pained
We gained



We birthed
And mirthed
And birthed
Again
But then
Amen



She sagged
She bagged
She nagged
He blamed
He tamed
She groaned
She moaned
He roamed



You lied
She cried
He denied
Not nice
She sliced
Her ice
You're daft
he laughed

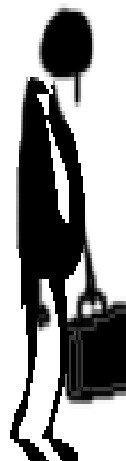




He's blue
From shoe
She threw
She's white
With fright
His bite
The jerk
His smirk
A lurk



We're sore
We roar
No more
He left
Bereft
What's left
We sought
We fought
In court
We tossed
We lost
what cost



Such pain
What name
This game
Not love
This can't
be love.....



Without a doubt
I can't rely
On tumbled thoughts
Travelling through
My mind
Search about
Reason fleeting

Through the window
Of my mind
Cast it out the
Doubt and searching
Trust my feelings
Not my mind



I love you....
For allowing me to be
Whoever I am
A shimmer or a spark
A tiger or a lark
A ripple or a torrent
I love you....
For sharing it with me
How ever we are
The whispers or the roaring
The sinking or the soaring
The passion or the sigh
I love you....
Just for being you
Whatever that is
A wonder or a doubt
An angel or a lout
A flint or a willow
I love you.





Loneliness ceases
Happiness increases
When I pick up the pieces
And take pleasure
In the measure
Of my own company



