**Poetry Series** 

# CeCe Lamberts - poems -

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# CeCe Lamberts(12 December 1969)

A single mother of 3, I was born and raised in Greece, but spent most of my adult life in the US, where I went for studies in engineering. I currently live and work in Greece, enjoying the laid-back life style, the warm weather, the bright sun and the blue sky almost every day of the year and the sense of belonging. My poems reflect my psychological status at the time; I always get a kick out of reading an old poem realizing how differently I used to see my life back then...

# (un) Happy Easter

Blue sky Sun shining A beautiful day I was there at the beach Blue-green salty water Green mountain behind me Crisp fresh air Nature at its best

In complete contrast to this beauty We were all there trying to make it work three divorced lonely adults and a bunch of angry confused kids Wondering why this Easter feels so weird Roasting away our misery Together with the easter lamb A dysfunctional group Wearing happy masks Each one wrapped in our thoughts Thought maybe we could all have a normal Easter. Guess not.

Caught myself still thinking of you Checking my phone for messages But it stood there quiet. Your memory's surely fading But it's still there Nagging me, making me moody Pain in my stomach You'll soon fade completely, I know, Others will come to hurt me some more Just like you did Bravo to you for being so effective Be proud, you really did it for me Add this one to your life achievements Hope you sleep well at night feeling guilty for shattering my heart.

#### **Being Single And Content**

I've been a willing victim for quite some time been used by people left and right letting them string me along for a long time trying to hold on, with all my might.

I've always been all ears I've always been all heart I've been open about my fears I've been trusting from the start. I've been doing this for years when a promising friend appears. I should know better, cause I'm smart In life, there are no volunteers.

I've been raised to believe that being good and giving is a virtue; that it's better to give than to receive, that one should never try to deceive, that this way you can happiness achieve. But such kindness people can't conceive Many will as neediness perceive Oh, God, how can I be so naive?

But I'm here to tell the world that when I'm kind and giving when I'm open and vulnerable when I'm honest about my feelings when I'm a good listener and a good friend when I'm full of empathy and full of love and affection and when I'm ready to jump in fire for you and wholeheartedly into a friendship, consuming myself for a relationship and staying up at night caring, it's not because I need emotional validation it's not because I need yours or other's approval it's not because I need sexual fulfillment it's not because I need to feel loveable

it's not because I need to feel worthy, It's because THAT'S WHO I AM!

I've come to terms with my aloneness I've come to terms with my singleness I am content, right here-right now. I know who I am, I know how much I'm worth I know how much I can achieve I can move mountains if I want to. And I have a treasure hidden away in a chest Three pairs of brown eyes that are more precious than gold. And I'm blessed and rich because of that.

If you wanna judge me for showing weakness Go right ahead But it won't make me a lesser person. Cause, thank God, I know who I am!

Written on July 26,2007

#### Chance Or Choice?

Life is about chance Life is about choice What if I'm your chance But you're not my choice?

Things in life happen either by chance or by choice

When life's chance Brings you before a choice Don't take a chance Listen to your inner voice

You're my choice My only choice I go around in circles And you're still my choice

Met you by chance And you were my choice I was your chance But why not your choice?

I make one step ahead And two steps behind Thought I was over you But you're still on my mind

(April 18,2007/Inspired by what my good friend Aashish Ameya had to say about life)

### Do You Believe In God?

I'm down on my knees thanking You My palms and my eyes facing the sky You proved to me once again You were right here with me Listening to my prayers.

You have sent me signs before Some call them internal signs Little do they know of Your existence When others state that You have died You are proving to me, coincidence after coincidence, that You are listening. That You will have the whole universe conspire on my behalf to satisfy, not just a caprice, but to only get what I've earned by investing my soul for months. I know what to do with this now.

Enlightenment and health is all I'm asking Not wealth or beauty or career Enlightenment to make wise choices in life.

When all else fails, I treasure Your gifts: my three angels and You in my heart.

#### Have You Ever Been To Scotland?

Have you ever been to Scotland? It's where English is spoken with the sweetest accent It's where people roll their 'r''s and call each other 'mate' It's where the whiskey is single-malt and it's to die for It's where guys are named Ian, play rugby and look pretty damn good It's where 'cheers' is called 'slaandjivaa' It's where Glenmorangie and Isle of Jura is made It's where men wear kilts (noone has ever looked this good in a skirt) and bagpipers play in every corner.

Ever been to Edinburgh?

Ever seen that castle from Princess street? It's the city where the friendliest people live People open, warm, fun-loving and hospitable People eager to get to know a stranger like me Eager to buy me drinks, to show me around town, Eager to party, to sing, to do the karaoke thing, To walk to just about every pub in town To smoke, to laugh, to arm-wrestle, to stay up all night

Ever been to Arthur's seat at night? Ever seen the views from up there? I've been there myself I've sat around a fire with artists and festival performers Drinking whiskey and champagne A complete stranger all by myself Yet feeling so well embraced by everybody

Ever been to Scotland? If you haven't, you gotta go up there, Meet some of the coolest people on earth Feel the magic, have fun, keep an open mind Let the place inspire you, let the culture affect you, And come back a different person...

#### How Do You Like Me Now?

Don't tell me what to do to gain acceptance from others Don't ask me to pretend to be someone else for my own sake... Don't offer me your strategies to get this guy to like me.

Your strategies are worthless to me Your criticism leaves me indifferent I don't need your patronizing Keep your advice to yourself

I don't do things to be likeable I just do things for myself

Do you think I care what he thinks of me? Do you think I care if he likes me? Do you think I'm afraid of his rejection?

Well, think again!

I've been too good for too long Enough! It's time to clean house To toss the bossy ones in the trash To bury the dead six feet under To burn their papers To cut through their pictures To delet their files To turn the page.

#### I Met My Fate

Some time ago I met my fate I met my fate in two brown eyes Saw him and knew he was my mate so funny, cool, but yet so wise.

Heard his voice and loved it, Saw his face and loved it, Read his writings and loved it, Heard him talk and melted,

Love his hair turning gray, Love his accent so sweet I don't think I can convey How he makes me feel complete.

I know that fate plays games with me That has always been the case Because together we cannot be Gotta forget that gorgeous face.

He's got everything I dream I said 'for him I'd change religion' He shines for me as a light beam But...he lives in another region.

I gotta try to find myself I gotta live in 'here and now' I need to work on my inner self Gotta do it, but I don't know how.

My quest for findings has started My fate will help me here, I know I feel so powerless and daunted But have a life plan to bestow.

# I Wanna Cry

I wanna cry for everything I've missed I wanna cry for my youth that's gone by I wanna cry 'cause today I realize that I've lost my soul I wanna cry for the endless violation of my personna For the humiliation of who I am and what I can achieve.

I wanna cry 'cause I can't pretend any more

It's incredibly difficult to wear the smiling mask that everybody expects from you I wanna cry 'cause I'm weak, small and worthless, and at the same time too old to do what I wanna do

I wanna cry 'cause I wanna be a kid again but I can't,

I wanna cry 'cause I grew too old, too fast

I wanna cry for the freshness and sponteneity that I can't find in me anymore

I wanna cry 'cause I need a warm hug to embrace me, but I can't find one 'Cause even the parental hug that opens up demands and expects wisdom from me

'Cause people around me won't let me be frivolous and make mistakes

I wanna cry 'cause I'm tired of being strong

I wanna break

Wanna break into hundreds of little pieces

Like the twin towers after a terrorist attack

I wanna fall I wanna be left alone by everyone to fall I wanna go low, real low, So low that nothing will matter any more Why won't you let me fall? Let me fall and don't give me your advice I wanna fall low, where all my life I was told I belonged, low, And once I'm low, I wanna hide In clouds of smoke and sin, in the anonymity of being low Maybe then I can emerge strong again I wanna fall but I fear I'll take others with me I fear I may take my three little angels with me And I must stand by them strong once again and not fall.

I wanna cry

I wanna curl up in my bed and cry for hours, maybe for days, weeks, months,

How long should I cry to wash away a life of 20 years? I wanna cry lots of tears I wanna cry floods of tears, hoping to wash and cleanse my soul Hoping to wash away the life that diminished and devalued my ego for so long That made me have no respect for my self That made me reject my own soul and my own laughter That made me feel ashamed for who I am That made me feel guilty for even existing.

I wanna cry floods of tears

And when I'm done crying I wanna drink my own tears

I wanna drink my tears to quench my thirst

To quench my thirst for life, for laughter, for fun, for company, for people

To quench my thirst for love, for acceptance, for empathy

My thirst for simple, little, everyday, normal things.

It's awful to be thirsty all your life It's awful to live a life dehydrated from happiness My thirst isn't gonna get quenched easily like that I've been dehydrated for so long and plain water won't be enough I need IV drips and drugs I need to lie down with the IV drips in my arms Doing nothing but recover 'Cause my dehydration is chronic and is making me ill One by one my systems are failing I don't know if I can make it, if I can survive this.

I wanna cry but I can't

The tears of redemption aren't running

Life has taught me not to cry

Life's made me tough, feeling no pain or joy

Couldn't survive otherwise

But it's time to take out this steel suit of armor

I want to feel this unbearable pain

To feel my lost youth

To feel the deep rejection and the spit on my face

To feel my non-existing happiness, the void of despair of lost time

To feel the offenses, the lies, the dirt

To feel the hate of this man that was so close to me all these years

To feel his derogatory and frozen look

To feel the hopelesness of all my efforts

To feel how useless everything I gave my life for was

To feel this pain that's so familiar to me, and...cry.

Written on September 4,2006

### Life's Illusions

How worrisome it is, when you realize That your so-called reality has been an illusion, A dreamy interpretation of perception Based on an "untold agreement" between those Taking part in this fantasy!

The time comes when you realize what's been happening And you become an objective observer of your life. You get removed from yourself And take the spectator's seat.

What do you see?

You see yourself not really living your life. You see promotions at work that don't matter The blue of the sky and the sea that leave you disinterested, The warmth of the sun And the beauty of summer that find you indifferent, The laughter of your children that goes unnoticed, The little things and the big things in life happening without you. You see yourself absent from your own life All real source of happiness and joy Being blurred from a fixation, An obsession, a fantasy, an illusion That you play in your head over and over Filling yourself with fake hope And draining all happiness and meaning out of you.

How can you live your life in the "here" and "now" When you've been living in "hyperspace" and "never"? How can you make your presents better than your pasts When you live neither in the present, nor in the past, But in a time-less space-less illusion?

Why are you wasting every breath blowing in a bubble that's getting larger every day And is about to burst?

For years I've been searching for the truth in my life.

I've been trying to record all coordinates and events of my past And through them, to explain my motives and actions today. I'm not in search of the truth any more. I'm now against illusions I'm now fighting the magic I'm now bursting the bubble I'm now having a funeral Celebrating the life and death of nothing Celebrating the life and death of just written words And putting this part of my life to rest.

I now know that illusions may offer short-term relief to my tried soul But they eventually leave it weak and limited.

I've nurtured the fantasy for some time now Knowing what I was doing But having nothing better to offer myself Being afraid of leaving myself naked In the freezing cold of my harsh reality. But I'm testing the fantasy now I'm dispelling the magic this summer Hoping that the hot summer sun will keep me warm And sticking to only what's real.

I don't get hurt any more It's more like I get educated Collecting the puzzle pieces and putting them together To make the puzzle of this world that's so unknown to me Like a child that gets burned by fire And knows to not touch it again Learning by my mistakes Day by day Tons of mistakes waiting to be made Tons of questions waiting to be answered Until the puzzle is finished Reaching self knowledge and awareness And world knowledge and awareness And people knowledge and awareness. Wisdom and maturity for here and now And a promise to myself for no more illusions.

#### Love Is A Cage

When I'm in love I feel locked in a cage I place you above everything and I feel rage.

Rage that you don't reciprocate And you know how to aggravate Rage that you don't write Rage that you keep me up at night Rage that I need you tonight And you don't plan to invite You don't try to be polite.

You want to show me the light, but you know I'm filled with fright You say my future is bright, but I don't see it in delight You say you love me, but not quite, You know how a fire to ignite You surely know how to excite I wish you would a poem for me recite but somehow I don't think you might. Hey, no worries, I'll be all right.

Now that I think I know you better I understand you're noone to fetter I know all you expect from me is to write I accept it and I think I'll be all right.

I don't need to show you love I don't need to tell you how I care You know my heart is like a dove, pure and vulnerable and really rare And to get hurt wouldn't be fair. So, with you, no more despair! As long as you and I are aware We can be good friends, I swear, But, don't you tease me, don't you dare With I LOVE YOU's; it's unfair, Let's stay friends, let's keep it there, We've got so much indeed to share, We can have a friendship that is rare.

Hope that's what you want from me. If yes, I'll feel a delightful flare. And that's really all I had to declare You've got it all written up, right there.

#### Marriages Are Made In Heaven

'Marriages are made in heaven' so say people in India a good marriage can your life lengthen it can be your ultimate good karma.

My marriage was made in hell Bad karma from beginning to end Kept me for years in a prison cell Finally, I don't have to pretend.

My marriage was made in hell no love or affection, felt like a bad spell A bad marriage can ruin your life For so many years, I had no life.

The hell marriage is now over Promise I won't do it again, ever I'm finally free from the shackles Thought I'd be happy, but I see no sparkles.

All I'm left now with is wrinkles My life's hard and full of struggles Still, I find my freedom wonderful And I will soon start feeling worthful.

Written on April 23,2007

# Mother's Day

I cried today on Mother's day I've been wanting to cry for a long time I've been wanting to cry for about a year now Mascara and eyeliner running down my cheek And three pairs of brown eyes looking at me 'What is it, mom? ' 'You didn't like the breakfast we prepared for you? ' 'Why are you crying, mom? ' What do I tell them? That I've been trusting once again and got hurt yet one more time? That I gave my soul to someone and he didn't treat it as I hoped he would? That I'm losing my hope in people? Or, that I'm crying 'cause their pure love touched me? 'Cause I realize that paradise is right there in front of me and I've been looking for it elsewhere? 'Cause I realize that they're the only ones capable of loving me unconditionally, no matter what I do or say? - I'm crying 'cause you're all I have in this world, I said as my son was handing me a love coupon promising me a hug whenever I needed it - I'm crying 'cause you make me feel complete, I said as my little one was handing me her drawing - I'm crying 'cause I love you more than life itself, I said and my eldest son gave me a card apologizing for backtalking - I'm crying 'cause you're giving me strength to face this ugly world, I said And I cried some more cleansing tears. Closed my eyes and tried to take it all in Wanted this moment to last a lifetime.

Written on Mother's Day (May 13,2007)

#### My Inner Stability

When I'm in my head looking for stability I see a mess and dread there's no tranquility.

My mood swings are strong I've violent ups and downs Swinging like a pendulum and then circling in rounds

I'm feeling all the negatives and blame myself continuously but, are there any positives? believe me, I search continuously

I have a great advisor He's bright and talks with no fright He couldn't be any wiser He is my guiding light

I'll find my inner stability I'll do it soon, I know I know I have the ability It's a process that is slow But I'll learn from this, I'll grow I won't stay low; I'll shine with my inner glow.

Written on May 1,2007

To my advisor, I owe you big.

#### **One-Night Stands**

One-night stands: so painful the day after, so exciting before they happen, so much anticipation and hope I don't know how to cope.

Emptiness the day after, Feeling used, like a cheap slut The phone's not ringing, text messages not coming, he probably doesn't care probably didn't like me won't care to see me again.

His smell still on my clothes his taste in my mouth his face in my head I see him everywhere Vivid pictures of his naked body on top of me Feel his warm touch on my body his tender lips on mine and the lack of climax...

His words echoing in my head 'don't want to get hurt' 'not interested in a relationship' wondering where I stand in this spectrum probably nowhere tucked away in the memory box as a drunken adventure soon wondering if it ever happened if it were true or a figment of my imagination

Can't stand this pain stopped my tears from falling again I can now say for sure I HATE ONE-NIGHT STANDS Hate the way I feel the day after Hate wondering if it meant anything Hate feeling so stupid for getting hurt Hate being so naive and expecting more

He was so warm and tender looked so sensitive and wounded yet sexy and good-looking He was caring and sweet Wanted the moments in his arms to last for ever Wanted the night to be really long Want to get to know him better Still wonder if he'll ever call If I'll ever see him again

# Over You

I'm over you dear You're history now your end was near it's finally here now.

The sun is shining again The colors are bright My heart is healed I'm finally all right.

A sigh of relief I'm turning the page On to a new belief I'm out of your cage.

(April 14,2007)

#### People In My Life

Walking down the path of life, A path often hard, uphill and difficult I meet people who walk by my side Some of them choose to touch me Some of them I touch Some of them hold my hand and walk with me All of them scar me somehow

I've met mean people Violent, angry people People dark in the soul People that look good on the outside People funny and gracious on the surface But void and empty on the inside People who try to cover their defects but can't Emotionally naive, eternally lonely, unhappy and troubled people.

I've met people who step on me to get taller People who break me to feel better People who want me for one night only People who hurt me and don't care Weird, strange and unstable people No sense in their behavior People who take advantage of what I give them People who don't appreciate me People who expunge me from their life for good People who erase me and cancel me with a message People who refuse to take my calls People who avoid me like the plague Irrational people who I want to know better People who interest me nevertheless... People who promise won't treat me bad but do so anyway without explanation People who reject me abruptly People who switch me off with the push of a button People careless about my feelings Oblivious, confused and indifferent People who jerk me around for a week Playing with my vulnerable soul

and toss me in the garbage afterwards.

Why, I ask, why is this happening?
Have normal people disappeared from this world?
Is it me who allows them to step all over me?
Is it my eagerness to meet someone normal
that makes me a magnet for such strange behavior?
Any normal people left out there?
Please come hold my hand
As life's ticking away and I can't hold out any longer
Come and I'll forget all I've been through
I'll try to do it right this time
I'll try to give you just what you need, no more.
Come tonight, I miss you.
I'll be expecting you.

Written on April 3,2007

### **Rejection And A Guy Named Aris**

Last week I met a guy named Aris He took my breath away Tall, sexy, good-looking, gorgeous Mysterious, sensitive, complicated Troubled, a poet, a musician Funny, intense and unstable.

He wanted me for one night only Treated me gently for that night Held me in his arms and kissed me long Gave me just what I needed for that night As I was needy for just that I was lonely and vulnerable I was looking for him and found him Thought the gods were shining down on me for once Thought he wanted me back But I was wrong...

Few days later he rejected me Came with a load of lies and excuses "It's not you, it's me" "I can't stay long" "I'm going through this phase" "I don't sleep well at night" 'I'm confused and contradictory'

Met me again and treated me like I was poison Kept away from me Curled in a corner Wouldn't even look at me Not a touch, a kiss, or a smile As if I had an infectious disease Like I was toxic

Left me with "I'm sorry" Messed me up real good And slammed the car door Like a slap on my face Left me stunned and frozen Crushed me completely Was unable to react or drive Stood there wondering What had just happened

Stupid me, trying my best to help him out Took his excuses and lies seriously Tried to get to the bottom of his problems To analyze his soul, listen to what he wasn't telling me As if his behavior was abnormal As if his rejecting me was unexpected.

I'm such a fucking fool I should know by now Rejection is the norm, rejection is the rule Haven't I learnt by now? Don't I know not to get surprised when they reject me? I should have learnt by now I'm becoming an expert at being rejected This fucking pain is so familiar

Acceptance should surprise me Gotta find out what it is in me that turns people away This can't be a coincidence When you go through life being rejected consistently by all You shouldn't make excuses You have to face your shortcomings Face what it is that makes me toxic to others

I know it's not Aris's fault Shouldn't blame him for anything He didn't want me in any way, body or soul Seeing me the second time felt excruciating to him Boy, this is exactly what I didn't need at this point in life But it happened, once again, One more rejection to be added to my long list Better get used to it There will be more to come, that's for sure.

#### **Rejection And My Inner Paradise**

I finally saw him at a party last night It's been 3 months since he's out of my life So short, so petit, so old for my taste yet so heartlessly he had me erased.

He's about eight inches shorter than me And the shoes I had on had 3-inch heels We are an odd couple, you have to agree None of his features match my ideals

He's about twenty years older than me My god, in my eyes he looked like a giant I think he is only five foot three Why did I have to be so compliant?

His Welsh accent was absolutely sexy His humor and wit were sharp as a razor I loved his tatoos, his earings and his dog Lexie, his look that intense and bright as a laser.

I saw him again and I felt it inside His rejection had hurt me, I had cried and died, How needy and stupid I'd been I realized I had him in my head totally idealized

My eyes were searching for him in the room I wanted to look at him long, to stare To ask him why he put me in such gloom How could he do that, how did he dare

I looked in the mirror instead; I looked good! All men in the party had circled around Trying to talk to me, to flirt all they could My shortie was now not making a sound

I decided to stay with the guys and chat I laughed, I giggled, I was a naughty brat I drank, I smoked, I danced, I had fun I was a hun, not a nun, and I liked to pun. I left the party with a smile on my face Could it be I was finally setting the pace for a life so free of this painful rejection? Maybe I didn't have to ask for affection My inner paradise was my ultimate protection.

Written on April 29,2007

To a friend who talked to me about my inner paradise.

#### **Sunday Blues**

I'm so confused For a minute I thought I saw the light I saw a good friendship develop A friendship I craved for a long time And I saw a beautiful mouth smiling at me

Now, I start doubting I doubt the friendship I doubt the feeling The sweet mouth is still smiling And two large blue-green eyes are looking my way Eyes so beautiful and large that are unreal Eyes that look like two blue lagoons And are full of kindness.

This is all so confusing I think I'm going crazy I need to put an order in my head And the alcohol's not helping me And my sleepless nights mess me up some more.

Am I moving backwards? I should be moving ahead I should be advancing But I feel stagnant Am I on a spiral? I feel like I'm running in circles Could it be I'm spiraling upwards? Am I making progress? Is this just a phase? When will it be over? Or, is it gonna be over? I've lost my guidance And I can't figure it out on my own.

# The Night He Said 'I Love You'

The night he said 'I love you' I was just going through a hard usual day I had been to work, I had cooked twice, I had done the laundry, I had taken the kids to their activities, I had helped them with their studies, I had put them to bed, I had done all the chores, I had argued with the ex, I had a full day...

He wrote to me in a message: I LOVE YOU! ! ! Out of the blue When I least expected it I thought I was gonna faint I thought life was playing its usual tricks on me This wasn't what it looked like He didn't really mean it It was right there on the screen But I couldn't believe it I was sure he was sending it to someone else Or he was too drunk Or he was too stoned Telling me he loves me It can't be

I filled up a glass of gin And I lit up a cigarette Had to numb myself for this Couldn't stand the feeling It was overwhelming This moment lived in my dreams with him He lived in my dreams with his 'I LOVE YOU' It wasn't real I couldn't handle it

Replied, trying to contain myself

And to not overreact Felt proud and glowing on the inside But made myself act cool and casual Just wrote a simple 'I love you MORE.' I wanted to write: 'Come again? I didn't hear you' 'It's too noisy here, can you repeat that please? ' 'I'm sorry, say it one more time, I didn't get it' So he keeps writing it back to me To make sure it's real.

I could have said so much more, Like, my life is never gonna be the same I admire you, I adore you, I worship you, You're one of the most special things in my life You're life itself for me You give me a reason to live Are you sure it's me you love? Are you sure?

I know it's not the same kind of love I feel for him I know it's a friend's love I know I'm in love, and he simply loves, 'cause he's in love with someone else, but this still feels wonderful.

It's 3 am and it's totally dark outside but it feels like the sun is shining I could see a rainbow of happiness out there Nature is having a party for me To celebrate this unique occasion That my soul has been in pain for such a long time And your 3 words have helped this pain so fast. Please tell me more words of love And I'll write a poem for every word you tell me. I promise. Please, I Love You

#### Words Of Love

Tell me a lie a little white lie tell me that you love me even if it's a lie.

You say that you have feelings You say you don't wanna lose me You put to our relationship ceilings All I ask from you is to love me.

You don't tell me I'm unique You don't make me feel special You don't like to speak, but you critique Your silence makes me want to shriek Saying you love me won't make you weak It's easy, no need for a special technique Loving words are like a colorful streak So start behaving as a passionate greek This way, me and you can reach a peak.

Written on November 1.2007