Poetry Series

Nate Flying Owl - poems -

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Nate Flying Owl(01/07/88)

My area of expertise is tigers and other large predators. I've been writing poetry since I was fifteen and I am open to any constructive critisms, so give them if you have any. I love God and and all my friends and family.

A Poet's Echo

Can poetry be felt in the blood, in the veins with each lyric being harmonized through dreams slain Each epic speaking of places both far and nigh With each melancholic elegy seeping pain?

Can verse performed by thunderstorms in the sky Be what compels us to express our hearts, to cry? How many poems have been written using tears As ink, written until our souls have been bled dry?

Have decades of weeping filled the seas with our fears And our nightmares penetrated mountains likes spears? Can a poet's echo resound beyond the chain Of mortality and fate's tyrannical leer?

An Elegy For Nelson Mandela

Dearest Tata Madiba, may you rest in peace, Your time on Earth is done and your life was well-lived. By your efforts, people of South Africa and-Throughout the world now see the forest for the trees; Countless millions know the evils of racism And experience gratitude for your lessons.

Humble, forgiving Tata, your legacy lives; What is lovingly known as Madiba Magic Still lingers in the hearts of those who admire you And it is my prayer that this legacy of yours Shall continue to teach future generations Until that fateful day the earth no longer spins.

Christmas Lights

Twilight moments between night and day Are quiet and cold in winter's grasp In suburban solitude I stroll On the frigid eve of Christmas day

That tranquil silence and touch of frost Is what drew me from within my home Introspection presses upon me With the urgency of a soft breeze So rare an occasion has pavement Seemed inviting upon which to tread Before long all that lights my pathway Are street lamps and tacky Christmas lights

What pathetic form of vanity Would compel a family to throw A tasteless assortment of light bulbs On their home in so-called Christmas cheer?

I slow down and linger near the house Displaying the most exuberance A quick glimpse through the window reveals A tree heavily decorated Placed next to the glass for all to see Are they so vain that they would indulge What has become a stereotype Of this nation's seasonal culture?

Continuing on my night saunter I stare down the rod ahead of me Instead of the ornate vanity With which these strangers strike my senses

The night-blackened clouds begin to pass Revealing the stars and crescent moon Each one thrusting it radiance forward For the purpose of pleasing the Lord Each one is existing entirely Outside the influence of mankind Each provides a better testament To God's mighty love than Christmas lights

Cyhydedd Hir

Doth thou ever hear A voice in thy ear Speaking loud and clear Through each season? Doth this voice so bold Speak of doubts untold Of spirits grown cold Without reason?

Doth thou know the light Shining ever bright From the moonless night Within the shade? Can thy poetry Of melancholy From deep within thee Begin to fade?

Enters The Water

The aroma of a recent downpour Lingers on the air like a charming kiss Grey clouds still concealing morning sunlight Songbirds signal the attendance of spring An otter awakens with empty paunch And as the river shares his poetry She enters the water to catch breakfast And she returns to the shore with a fish With each bite that she savors, she thanks God For the opportunity to do so

Gentle Chorus

The air is wintry The morning sky is silver And still the birds sing I cease all of my actions To hear their gentle chorus

Grandson Of Moon

Fearless of the darkest midnight I stride through the shadows that find my path So much have I endured so far Though evil haunts my every step I will not let this dark world control me And the moon calls me to his grandson

The fierce shadows surrounding me Are the authors of nightmares for many They are merely shadows to me Behaving as they always have My nightmares go far deeper than the black And the moon calls me his grandson

As I walk amongst the darkness I look to the skies for the lustrous one Waxing or waning, full or new He delivers the strength I need Igniting the warrior in my heart And the moon calls me his grandson

Last Lifetimes

The wind tastes the marrow of my bones Jehovah's movement become evident Through the leaves of each tree I encounter And moments can last lifetimes when I pause To Llisten for the songs quietly sung By the branches seeking to comfort my soul What better Elysium can there be?

Letter To A Child Soldier

Child Soldier, you afflicted soul All the carnage that you have witnessed Must be cumbersome to your heart With such torturous persistance All the bloodshed your hands have wrought By the dark will of the warlord Who has manipulated you Must be haunting each dream you have I cannot begin to perceive The anguish you must be feeling As I live in America, No hardship I experience Is nowhere near as difficult As the sorrow you have suffered Over such a concise lifetime I pray God gives you the strength To endure these dark memories To survive the warlord's brainwash Do you feel a belief in God With so much torment in your heart?

Letter To A Gorilla

Gorilla patient and mighty You must think that we are monsters How much of your tribe's blood has been spilled By the ruthless hands of my own? How many relatives butchered For the sake of making money?

Of course, a true analysis Would suggest that men are driven By poverty and misfortune What a monstrous society To allow such desperation Invade the lives of so many

We wage war to seize oil and cash And claim noble reasons for them Our self-indulgant behaviours Further strengthen poverty's grip Exhausts resources, and destroys Your tribe, mine, and many others

Even across the Atlantic I can sense you sigh, overwhelmed, By what has been wrought by humans Extinction approaches yout ribe And I know the word 'monster' Lingers on your heart for Mankind

Letter To A Kardashian

Oh, for crying out loud, Kim K., We know that you are beautiful, We know that you love getting laid That you are confused about love But those are not sufficient drives To destroy this nation's culture

A sex tape is your source of fame Your need for attention feasts on This country's short attention span Civil war shatters Syria While we Americans focus on Your superficial clothing

If you want to bestead the world Then do everything that you can To encourage our media To be truly informative If you cannot accomplish this, Then, please, step out of the spotlight

Letter To A Killer Whale

Dearest Orca, long has it been Since we last enjoyed the pleasure Of each other's companionship What oceanic adventures Have taken place in the years past?

Have you new vrse to harmonize? Maybe a ballad describing How secretive the depths are, Or perhaps an epic poem About your hunting endeavors?

Wait, I forgot, your melodies Transcend anything words can do But that should not stop our friendship I still want to enjoy the charm Of your symphonic poetry.

Letter To A Killer Whale Ii

Orca, my dear companion, The sunlight shines on my skin But darkness still surrounds me Each dreadful moment I spend In this suburban landscape Is drowning me in shadow

Suffocating in sorrow With so very few journeys Into wilderness of late Have I forgotten the sound Of tides pounding the shore And the taste of salty air?

Killer Whale, I am sinking, Drowning in my own anguish, Miles away from the ocean Miles away from elegance What a tragedy it is To be drowning on dry land

Will you serenade my soul And remind me of the depths Of all the marine wildlife That have occupied the seas For millions of years before Mankind tasted his first breath?

How does the cool water feel Upon your black and white skin? How does the sea salt affect The taste of your sustenance? How far into the abyss Have you descended with kin?

Orca, wildest companion, Remind me of the ocean I am thirsty for new life And I strain to hear your voice Expecting God's poetry To ebb and flow through your words

Letter To A Mailwoman

Oh, dearest Miss Mailwoman How Hard must it be for you To perform your services In an era when the Web Provides most of the items That used to pass throught your hands

A mere twenty years ago Someone in your position Was a primary method Of sending communique Over massive distances Now only a memory

What now pass through your hands Are things of little sustance A peddler of bank statements And of porno magazines Is that you have become. What bitterness do you feel?

As the digital age grows And further minimizes The need for your services Are you waiting for the day When once again your labor Will matter to those you serve?

Letter To A Mirror

Seeking sanctuary in shadows You dwell on every despondency Nightmares penetrating your slumber You leave your social ties malnourished Why must you let your fear and apathy Destroy all that you know you can be?

Letter To A Serval

Lovely serval, let honesty flow What have you heard about me lately? Has word of mouth reached Africa's heart Moved through the grass while you were hunting And informed you of my psychosis?

Have you heard of my isolation, My debilitating loneliness Made even worse by Man's apathy? Have you heard of the nihilism That has been growing within my heart?

Or has no one bothered to tell you To regard your concern for a friend? Does anyone seek my benefit In the same way you seek your next meal? Does anyone know you know me?

Letter To A Spree Shooter

With a fake smile glued to your face You shield others from the darkness Held so deeply within your heart The ghosts that haunt your every thought

With plenty of practice, a smile Is an easy lie to construct And it often makes your plans hard To predict or to discourage

Day after day, you show the world What it sinfully wants to see Until the mask finally breaks And you unleash weaponed carnage

Total strangers from wall to wall You enter your destination You have made the despondent choice To share your torturous sorrow

Letter To A Stranger

You do not recognize my name Nor am I in knowledge of yours Though we have never met before I feel the need to speak with you To tell you stories of my life And you provide me with the same

But before we start a friendship I wish to ask you a ferw things Thus, your undivided focus Is what I need from you right now Can you pay fervent attention To every word that passes my lips?

In years past, I have met people Who love srface phenomena And fail to dive deeper than that Refuse to connect ideas Will you hear the depths of my verse And perceive me for who I am?

And many of these same pepole Have done nothing to assist me With any hardship I have faced Have not been there to support me Do you keep an eye out for friends To have their backs in trying times?

When there arrives a dire moment That requires a frank dialogue And an unfettered honesty Without ny hesitation Would you call out my behaviour When it is less than savory?

All these things I ask in my search For a Dee, pgenuine friendship So hard have these traits been to find That psychosis and loneliness Have oftn been my only company. What will you do to alter this?

Letter To A Syrian Rebel

You faceless freedom fighter After these long months Of tempestuous battles In Syrian suburbs Have you lost sight of your task The ousting of tyranny From each nook of your nation Has this deranged civil war Kindles disillusionment Of your original goal? Has all that gruesome violence And Assad's selfish resolve Left you without any hope Of achieving anything That would be of noble worth? Has glory become your goal For the sake of your own good? Return to the war's first days, Rekindle the ambition That once burned within your heart.

Letter To A Syrian Rebel Ii

Syrian rebel, fighter For the ouster of Assad Yes, war can strain the soul, But how could you let your goal And your heart be corrupt By your lust for victory?

Acts of cannibalism Filmed and posted on the web To intimidate your foes; Yes, war strips you of yourself, But humanity's last shred Is something worth protecting

You would gladly accept aide From the U.S., yet you fight Beside al-Qaeda members. Regarding grim history, How can a trust be formed From such a contradiction?

Of course, an American Who has never known combat Cannot fully understand What this war has done to you. When its final days have come, Would hope still dwell within your heart?

Letter To A Tiger

Amur Tiger, wild majesty, Savage beast of the northern frost, Dweller of Siberian ice, Of woodlands blanketed with snow A hunter in the deepest of night, My weakness is as clear to you As the cold to a naked man. There is no mask that I could wear That would hide my face from your sight Or shield my pain from your knowledge. Each ounce of strength you display, Whether in the midst of the hunt Or defending your dominion, Makes the sting of my helplessness Ever more baneful to my heart. As I watch your stripes vanish Into the Siberian night All that lingers in this cold place, Is the weakness yet to be healed And the envy I feel for you.

Letter To Al-Assad

How Much more blood will you shed? How many of your people Will bleed into your country's sand By the flick of your selfish wrist?

Your sense of reason overwhelmed By the flavor of tyranny And an addiction to bloodlust. Your soul is no more than the dust.

Is it really any wonder That the citizens of this realm Have risen against your rule? Your dictatorship feeds their wrath.

To the Western world, you may be Just another Arab tyrant, But such a description falls short Of what a fiend you really are.

Letter To An Otter

Lively Otter, playful companion Have you had any adventures In the years since we last met That are worthy reciting in verse?

What pleasures have you encountered In the splash of the river's song? Do you often taste the nectar Of bountiful diving forays?

Your aquatic agility Allows all your untainted joy To flow throughout your body with ease And I am envious of you

How can your joy be untainted When so much darkness runs rampant? Is this eternal merriment The result of a simple life?

Letter To Braga

Whispers in the back of my mind Haunting my thoughts throughout the day, Poetic words stabbing my ear. Is it you, Braga, who whispers So that only I can hear you Demanding scribbles on the page?

Thousands of years ago, The Norse Called you the God of poetry Or are you really an angel Of the Lord, causing words to form On the tongues and dark hearts of men And you were misinterpreted?

You are but one incarnation Of the poetic flicker Found within the human spirit As manifested within me Braga, you are not my passion, But rather, my insanity.

Letter To Crazy Horse

Crazy Horse, you fallen icon, The fervent and determined days Of the Oglala warrior Are but a distant memory Diabetes, unemployment, And rampant alcoholism Are unfortunate pandemics Among the indigenous. In American media, Tribespeople are barely present Each a generic face that fades Qietly into the background. The again, any awareness of modern Indian affairs Has become a stereotype Hell, at this point in history The 'Indian' is a bad joke It seems as though your victory At Little Bighorn was in vain Columbus must be overjoyed

Letter To Custer

Custer, you arrogant moron Civilised culture does not grow From the shed blood of whomever You consider inferior Nor from the blood of soldiers You sacrificed for genocide

How can anyone call you, An egotisical racist, A hero worthy of honor, You who thought the indigenous Were not quite human enough To organize a victory?

What honor could there ever be For a gloryhound such as you? You might be a perfect icon For this country's hero worship And yet I find another word To be more appropriate... LOSER!

Letter To God

Lord Almighty, lustrous above I can barely see the arbors For lack of moonlight on this hike. Each Step I take is a struggle Not to trip over a tree root. Such is the story of my life And I am thus compelled to pray. Shine your radiance fervently Upon my path, upon each step, Even when these steps take me far From where you intend me to be. Lord, these recent days have been grim, My sight is weaker than normal, And my desires and impulses Have seized my life with vigor. How can you bear to speak to me Or even bother to regard My pathetic continuance?

Letter To Kokopelli

Kokopelli, mythic flutist, Does any of today's music Hold up to your criteria? Are modern composers worthy Of the best praise one can recieve Or of the most brutal disdain?

What modern songs do you enjoy? How many infuriate you With their pedestrian rhythms And lack of creative lyrics? Or are there songs I have not heard That you whole-heartedly adore?

Do the songs of America Sound to you, as they do to me, To be dipping in quality? Are you open-minded enough To accept music's direction As it is, forever an art?

Letter To Sasquatch

Sasquatch, you taciturn savage To be straightforward, I do not Believe that you exist at all I see you as an archetype, A poster-child of mystery However, if it should be so That you are, in fact, existant Do not opt to reveal yourself Into the attention of Man With our self-centered impulses Stealing innocence in the night And our obsession with bloodshed Overpowering our senses It would be best for you to fade Into the sands of time Without our presence in your life So for your own sake, stay hidden In the forests of the Northwest Be nothing more than a legend A mystery to haunt our psyche

Letter To The Church

Dearest church, body of Yahweh You are counted upon to be The bride of Christ, and yet somehow You have lost sight of this ideal And have come to worship standards You impose on everyone else

Whether the fiercest perfection Sought out by Old Testament law Or an unwillingness to hear The depth's of one's identity You are expecting each person To be somebody they are not

How can you show the world God's love If you refuse to treat people Like people rather than cutouts Everybody is imperfect And exquisitely intricate Nothing more should be epected

Lion Pride

Within the far depths of a moonless night,
A pride stirs among the dancing shadows.
The herd is not aware of the danger,
And their movements leave a young one exposed.
Moving as silently as possible,
The pride focuses on her and moves in.
Driving her further away from her kin,
Taking her life with remorseless hunger,
Without mercy, without a second thought.
What else can be expected from a king?
Miles To Go

A river have I to travel For what purpose I do not know But here I am, heading downstream Thrusting the oar through the water I propel my wood raft forward With miles to go before I sleep

Numerous arbors have I past Willows with river-kissed branches Widowmakers growing massive But no matter what tree I pass I remain the lone sojourner With miles to go before I sleep

Knowing that I must continue Devoid of all hesitation I bid these fine arbors farewell As my raft drifts through the water I stare into the distance With miles to go before I sleep

Moonlight Reflections

The moonlight beams upon the clouds tonight Amongst the shapes, I see the bison strong My mind recalls this creature's bulky might The billow vanishes before too long

Compelled to scream my words of poetry To any open mind or willing ear My voice with fury vents my misery And still the world ignores my presence here

The bison once again do I behold And do they thunder fast across the plains In sorrow wonder I what would unfold Should I decide to join in their refrain

Among the multitudes, I have no place And all I know is melancholy's grace.

Ode To A Couple Crickets

Winter weather but a faint memory Dusk allows the shadows to slowly grow My skin is caked with dried sweat From the heat of afternoon Somewhere among the thirsty blades of grass A couple crickets are chirping with zeal Barely audible amid The drone of distant traffic So deep into suburbia am I That they are the only poets I hear

Ode To A Crimson Leaf

A leaf, crimson as the dawn Sunders itself from its branch And drifts on a playful breeze Its slow undulating flight Mesmerizing me with charm

With all the pain and sorrow I have seen over the years This momentary beauty This visual poetry Provides my spirit with peace

The leaf lands amid others In shades of orange and yellow To form autumn's mosaic And the ever-patient duck Paints its bright panorama

Ode To A Jaguar

Far beneath the canopy Bathed in moonlight, a jaguar Strides with grace through the night

What strength within her muscles What care put into each step Spotted coat her camouflage Gleaming tooth and hidden claw Combined with such stealth and might She is lithe fatality

Lethal purpose is guided The design of her body Into a fierce elegance

With a beauty born of bloodlust The jaguar, in all her vim, Moves among midnight shadows A pantherine eidolon Prowling the rainforest floor Senses always kept acute

Ode To A Pair Of Hiking Shoes

A pair of well used hiking boots Rest beside an open doorway Their leather no longer stiff As the first day they were applied A couple holes decorate one Stains of white paint splatters on both And a faint whiff of sweat lingers From each hike, brisk walk, and paint job That has provided them with use

After years of being beaten By cement and the burdened feet Of the morbidly obese man Who chooses to utilize them They have developed character That not enough people strive for And too many, through foolishness And with fervor, claim to possess What kind of a country is this?

Ode To A Pencil

Lead marks swept across the page, Forming words, sentences and ideas, Articulating fundamental truths, An extension of the voice That gives a writer strength to bear hardship. What brutal insanity would prevail If this was never again utilized?

Ode To A Raindrop

The first cool drop of water Released from the skyward mist On an autumn afternoon Traverses my sweaty brow A welcome kiss of beauty

That small elegant raindrop With fervent haste foreshadows A wild tempest soon to come Quenching the earth of its thirst After long summer months

The drop rivulets across The surface of my forehead And I gaze into the heavens Each subsequent water drop Is another baptism

Ode To A Shattered Window

Shards of glass in various sizes Scattered wildly across the store's tile Are bathed in shadow and feigned moonlight Evidence of the robber's break-in Testament to the desperation And the brutality of men's hearts

Each shard is a poem of sorrow A threnody for pure innocence With the screaming alarm loud and clear Verses bringing deep despondency To the store's owner, his family And the surrounding community

This broken window, this shattered glass Articulates a reality Difficult for many to accept At least for many Americans Humanity is all too often Nothing more than a grim fallacy

Ode To A Urinal

Approach the porcelain bowl Pants are unzipped, thing is whipped out, A stream of yellow Is released, Much to my impatient relief As I listen to the trickle, Steady and soft, I slowly sigh. What pleasant alleviation Is given by the mere presence Of the urinal before me, A huge blessing to men worldwide

Ode To An Orange

As my teeth slice into its flesh Sweet juices spill over my tongue And steadily slide down my throat As I swallow chewed chunks of pulp

So nectareous a flavor So unassuming a texture Though momentary, brings delight To the dreary days of my life

Each time I enjoy this fruit's flesh Each time I taste these sweet juices The sugar's invigoration Seems to be instantaneous

With another slice in my mouth I savor it with gratitude And I pray to God, thanking Him For the taste of the sublime orange

Ode To Mt. Hood

As the sun rises On a cool spring morn Mt. Hood is completely covered in snow And is painted a light shade of yellow By daybreak's soothing illumination The only mountain to be soon for miles For millions of years, he has been present A vigilant, reliable watchgaurd Firm beneath the feet Of those who trust him

Ode To Silence

Remember the songs of silence That have serenaded your life With unexpected beauty

The moist crawling footsteps of fog Embracing your whole environs Caressing each inch of your skin And not a creature is speaking

The soft soundless flight of the owl Commands the night with airborne stealth Each movement of his wings brings forth Profound verse not meant to be heard

How quiet is the moon tonight Its light gliding down to the earth Silently reducing the world To simple shades of black and white

The vim of the cemetery Is felt so much more potently When voices are left without use And when words cannot be uttered

Oh, the poetry of silence Have you let it sweeten your life As an act of worship to God?

Ode To The Bellydancer

Music resonates through the room And, dressed in tribaldress and bra You sychronize your fair motions With the composition's rhythym Hips rolling in elegant grace Arms and legs affirming their moves

Your navel is hypnotising Using puslating gyrations To intoxicate all who watch Until your dance steps turn your form And your hips become the focus Moving with resplendant cadence

Each exotic movement declares, Sensuality is an art! Knowing the melody's tempo You have honed stamina and skill Into truly beautidul form And have become a masterpiece

Ode To Writer's Block

Staring at the piece of paper Without the faintest idea Of what to write, I sit In my chair, pencil not moving Madness gaining another step

I wonder how many mornings Or perhaps it was evening time When Frost sat down to write, that he-Spent staring at the empty page Clueless about sbject matter

Writer's block, such bloody torment Making a wanker out of me Always appearing at my door At a most inconvient time What a terrible patron

Odes To Bats

Throughout the course of the night When darkness is overwhelming The bats recite their poetry. As each verse echoes back to them, Their understanding of the world Improves, influencing their movements And depending on each bats species, They control insect populations Or are effective pollinators. Articulating their subtle verse And responding to every result, Ecosystems become healthier. How elegant are these cornerstones Of the habitats in which they live.

Quintilla Stanzas

With the passing of midnight grim I hear that sound of mighty vim The bellow of distant thunder And as it resounds, I wonder Why must the lightning strike with whim?

As I stand, with my waking eyes Maintained upon the darkened skies I contemplate whether my form Can weather the coming storm How strong it can make me, how wise

With the embrace of night so black So begins the fall of cold rain A lightning step with thunder crack Shares with me its flashing refrain Over its verse my soul does rack

Deep within my heart do I hear Crashing songs of this storm so wild These booming lyrics in my ear What is that the thunder fears? Does it ever feel like a child?

Another bolt of lightning strikes Speaking without the slightest heed To any of man's laws or creeds Ignoring king and wretch alike It simply goes about its deed

Wild Fury

Animal silence followed by sable clouds The winds gathering their speed and strength Before a drop is seen, I smell the rain The air carries a spark of future strain In the distance, the thunder's boom resounds I seek shelter from the storm's fury

Moments later, I run amidst the fury God's face is shielded from me by the clouds Being punched by the gales (their shrieks resound), I feel the storm taking away my strength My heart thunders and every muscle strains A lightning bolt illuminates the rain.

All my surroundings being crushed by rain I try to see through the savage fury This mighty downpour gives my eyes strain Through the vehement shadows of the clouds I see friends, gathered in numbered strength And her for whom my poetry resounds

As the storm's vim continues to resound So do I continue through the cold rain Now determined to use each drop of strength That I aim to unleash my own fury Against the wrath of unforgiving clouds For the sake of love does my soul e'er strain

With each of my muscle now taut and strained The pulsating of blood in my veins resounds After I've declared war against the clouds With strikes of lightning and thrashing of rain Coming down on me in all hell's fury I shout an orison to God for strength

Her smile sparks a new wave of strength My heart begins to sing a joyous strain As I escape from the storm's wild fury With the laughter of my friends resounding They rejoice that I got out of the rain God's almighty love leaves behind the clouds

I have conquered the fury of the clouds The rain has not plundered me of my strength And I shall let another strain resound

Wintertide Lyrics

In the dead of January I saunter beneath darkened clouds Evergreens remaining silent Snowflakes drift in speechless beauty Wintertide lyrics invading The deepest marrow of my bones I have no verse to speak today Frozen by life's inherent bane My tongue remains still, unshifting I would prefer this anyway Nature writes better poetry

Written Word

</>Children of the written word You wield in your minds, voices and fingers The weaponry you need to fight for truth In your minds, the ideas In your voices, the ways to speak your minds In your fingers, the tools to record them

Stand up and shout out for truth Fight against the tyranny of evil Don't sit back while darkness spreads its filth Address the night as it is And hand out forgiveness where it is due For words of passion and love will endure

Rise, oh warriors of truth Narrate all you can, oh storytellers Be observant and watchful, oh poets Let your diction be your sword As children of the written word, be strong And spread your words like a raging wildfire