



“Far in the West there lies a desert land...  
 Opens a passage rude to the wheels of the emigrant's wagon...  
 Over them wandered the buffalo herds”  
 - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## A new year resolution

A new year resolution to make;  
 Let's think deep and a correct path take  
 The problems in our country bring to mind  
 A solution to it the best way find  
 To the core of our hearts let's do peep;  
 And eradicate all evil that lies buried deep  
 The four great religions in our land  
 Will lead us lead us by the hand  
 Our religious teachings will pave the way  
 If we follow its precepts I say  
 Do unto others in the same way  
 As you wish them to do unto you the Bible say.  
 Forgive your enemies whoever they be;  
 Thus God's forgiveness will be yours said HE  
 Love your neighbour in the same way  
 As you love yourself the Lord does say  
 The work of darkness, let's lay aside;  
 An armour of light let's honestly abide  
 High, low, rich or poor will have a voice  
 To air their views unhindered – an equal choice  
 Not words but deeds we need today;  
 Judgment rendered to all in the same way  
 Atune our hearts and minds to peace try we can.  
 As peace must come from the heart of man.  
 Sri Lankans, Sri Lankans all not one  
 Such a resolution make – our goal be won  
 All fighting quarreling will fade away  
 And peace and harmony will come our way

- NORMA PERERA

## Dead SOULS

I looked on nonplussed  
 And defiant  
 At the dead body of a relative  
 Laid to rest in a grand coffin  
 Majestically enhanced in stature  
 In the middle of  
 The imposing parlour  
 Eye-lids closed  
 Quite resignedly  
 Though still wafting the aroma  
 Of haughty exclusiveness  
 Vainly suppressed  
 For the grand occasion  
 Understandably  
 There were hardly any mourners  
 Instead a few privileged  
 Were having a gala time  
 Stylishly sipping purportedly cool drinks  
 To quench their insatiable thirst  
 Docilely served  
 By the natty servant  
 And the guests  
 Enterprisingly discussed  
 Dreary subjects such as  
 Tragic fall of share market  
 Rising tide of labour unrest  
 While the menacing heat  
 Smothered my soul  
 Till I departed  
 Very much relieved  
 Only to be embroiled  
 Once again  
 In heart – numbing  
 And tantalizing passions  
 Admittedly,  
 Quite a harmless device  
 To prolong the final farewell  
 Forecasting a prophesy of doom  
 And oblivion

- RANJAN AMARASINGHE

## Pieces of my heart

Pieces of my heart  
 lying in your hands  
 Kiss me one more time  
 Tell me Good bye  
 Pieces of my soul  
 drifting by your side  
 did you see me passing by  
 among the strangers you met  
 as time passed by  
 Pieces of my heart  
 still lying in your hands

- BERTHOLAMUZE NISANSALA DHARMASENA

## “My heart speaks of you”

Now my pen becomes...  
 A real gifted one,  
 To honour you.  
 You made me know...  
 How eminent physically,  
 Mentally and spiritually.  
 Even a chick can become...  
 A mighty golden Eagle,  
 If it is under your shadow.  
 I never forget the words...  
 That you said and  
 Touched deep my heart.  
 A man shouldn't give up  
 His strength and efforts  
 Until reach his Ambition.  
 He must try...  
 Through his hard work,  
 Even he is totally defeated.  
 You have the special strategy...  
 Which turns the powerful light,  
 Towards us.  
 But the reflection of it turns...  
 Thousand times more on you,  
 And makes you shine as a wisest genius.  
 The legends what we see and read...  
 Are only just imaginations,  
 And created.  
 But you are the living legend...  
 And a multiple personality,  
 And greatest role modal.  
 My words have no power...  
 To carry my feelings,  
 Of you.  
 These are my...  
 Heart beats and  
 True to my heart.  
 You and your better half  
 Are the exemplary citizens  
 to respect diversity and multicultural society.  
 I thank god for given me...  
 The greatest chance,  
 To see you in my life.  
 I pray from the bottom of my heart...  
 To bless you in every way and every seconds.  
 And save such a greatest asset of the world.

- S SHARMILA

## Light and darkness

Black with fury  
 Like all hell hath broken loose  
 The white light shines  
 Like it pleadeth mercy.  
 The darkness and gale  
 Know no kindness,  
 The shimmer of light  
 and the soft clouds  
 Smile kindly from the heavens above.  
 Dark waters warn of dangers  
 Yet the cotton clouds emit comfort.  
 The waves crash on the rocks  
 While the wind blows  
 lovingly on the face.

- BHAGYA SENARATNE

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