

# POETRY

8

## EPIPHANY DAY

Take this day for the appointed one.  
"Spare a dime," pleads the village bum.  
His home becomes any empty park bench.  
And walking the streets is a body-selling wench.

Amidst the restless still stand around  
Seizing to put feet on steady ground.  
Still the hustler makes his passes.  
Striving to be seducer of the masses.

Being a man of God, he pours it on.  
Turning his head, all rapidly yawn.  
Climbing out of bed, where he's usually spent.  
Laughs about all the money that he's lent.

A negro shouts out, he's no different from others.  
Quickly shut up a group of white brothers.  
Across our vast Atlantic ocean.  
Millions of children, stomachs bloating.

## Chorus

In this world of man  
Only he's to blame!  
Humanity is losing heart.  
More are going insane!  
Remember the words.  
Of a teacher of tame  
Whose blessed touch,  
Cured helpless lame.  
Said love was the Savior.  
Make us all the same!

## Ropeslope



Barred In, Barred Out.  
Up In The World, But You Could Never Figure Out Just How  
Out In The Street, But You Don't Want To Face Why.  
You Try To Give The Help You Can Afford,  
But You Can't Afford To Bend Your Pride.  
Take It In stride, just who is it that is 'Barred In, Barred Out'.

John Campbell

## WE SPEAK

Mock us, Neglect us,  
Mistreat us,  
Strip us of our pride  
And culture.  
But let me tell you this,  
When He spoke,  
Our Chief,  
Silence covered the land.  
A stillness, so real,  
The waters of our streams  
Were heard trickling  
Through the forests,  
And every Indian listened.  
Sincerely in expectation,  
Depending on this man,  
To guide them.  
And let me tell you this,  
It is a sign  
For we nations  
Are the cultivators  
Of a new race.  
We are the Indians  
Of tomorrow.

Suzanne Sheltor

## MYSTERIES

Creation at your fingertips,  
And you choose to ignore it.  
Where is your curiosity? — Marco.  
Your sense of adventure?  
Jungles and ocean beds.  
Still unconquered, and you  
Venturing to the moon.  
In your super sonic crafts?  
Valuable treasures hidden by age?  
Sleep in your yard?  
Answer the questions, herein.  
Before you create more.  
Tell me, what is beneath?

Suzanne Sheltor



graphics by Mac Haynes

## Strum Away, Drum Away

Finger Your Rhythmic Sensations Across The Room.  
Plan A Sequence of Words (Don't Get Off Course) To Entertain Me.

Bring Wash Me,

Even The Words I Can't Make Out, Make Out Very Well.  
Stereo Breaks The Fantastically Modestous Method. (Note The Alliteration)

(And I Long of My Earphones.)

Oh Well... Strum Away, Drum Away. (Note This Repetition.)

I Have Heard This Song Before All Way.

John Campbell

If

If life were just a game, to play  
Then people would be cards.  
If love was just a word to say  
Then truth would not exist.  
If beauty was worth a dime,  
Then Nature would be silver.  
If there were no time,  
Then nothing would grow old.  
If songs could only be played,  
The forest would be silent.  
If summer's days could be made,  
Seasons would never change.  
If happiness could be earned,  
Everyone would work.  
If wisdom could be learned,  
All would go to school.  
If death were the end,  
There would be no faith.  
If peace could descend,  
There would be no war.  
If man thinks he rules the world,  
Why can't he rule God?

Barbara Baird

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