

# Toward Human Extinction



# Toward Human Extinction

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*A Warning*

FREDERICK DOUGLAS HARPER

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# CONTENTS

Toward Human Extinction? .....	1
If I Can Save The Human Race.....	2
Technology And Human Destiny .....	3
While We Die.....	4
A Prayer For The Human Species .....	5
Ode To Earth .....	6
Earth's Anger, A Warning .....	7
Peace With Earth .....	8
Stardust.....	9
Jewel Of Animalia.....	10
A Tribute To Muhammad Ali .....	11
The New World Order .....	13
Boy And Father .....	14
Biology 101, Section Homo Sapiens.....	15
Gates Of Heaven.....	16
The Brink Of Human Extinction .....	17
Signs Of Our Time.....	18
God Speaks .....	19
Caught Up In Self.....	20
A Tribute To Jimi Hendrix.....	21
My Message To The Human Race .....	22
A Letter To Sandy Hook Heaven .....	23
Fighting .....	25
Wake Up Homo Sapiens .....	26
Good Religion, Bad Religion .....	27
And God Stepped Out From Herself .....	28
Things That Don't Make Us Civilized .....	29
No Color, No Shape.....	30
Stop The Killing In The Name Of Religion.....	31
A Place With No Time.....	32
Fire In The Wire.....	33
The Future Of Us .....	34
And God Created A Rock .....	35

There's A Train Coming .....	36
There Is A God.....	37
Life's Star .....	38
Autumn.....	39
A Brief Prayer For Purpose.....	40
Destiny .....	41
Laws Of Life .....	42
Life Is A Rose .....	43
People Are Dying With Time Past .....	44
A Simple Prayer.....	45
As We Die, We Play.....	46
There's A Cruel Wind Coming .....	47
Times Changed.....	48
Time And Space .....	49
Precipice I .....	50
Telescope Hubble .....	51
Time Stolen By Technology .....	52
Techno-Insulated Human .....	53
The Prophecy .....	54
Dehumanizing Of Humans .....	55
Human Forgiveness And Human Destiny .....	56
Life Beyond.....	57
Future Of Humankind .....	58
If Humans All Die.....	59
Climate Change, Human Change.....	60
What If? .....	61
Why Do We Think We're So Intelligent? .....	62
Nostalgia Around The Fireplace, 2040 .....	64
Imminent Extinction? .....	65
Because I Smile .....	66
The Transience Of Beauty?.....	67
Success And Failure.....	68
Danger .....	69
Why IV? .....	70
I Like You.....	72
Too Proud, False Pride .....	73

It's Too Heavy Grandma.....	74
I've Gone Without For Much.....	75
Does It Matter? .....	76
Up And Down.....	77
What We Must Learn .....	78
Looking To God .....	79
Along Life's Way .....	80
Curtain's Fall.....	81
People Wanting To Be Else .....	82
Blessed But Sometimes Cursed .....	83
Preparing For Life And Death.....	84
Don't Judge By Appearance .....	85
What Is Strength?.....	86
Caught Up II .....	87
Never Tell A Child .....	88
She's A Hero.....	89
If Not Somebody, Then Have Nobody .....	90
Redefining Strength .....	91
A Time Which Is No More .....	92
Earth's Change: Death Of Species In End Of Days? .....	93
Time's Clock Is Dying Still.....	94
Three Boys And A Question .....	95
Time's Signals.....	96
Too Busy To Be Human.....	97
Global Warming: Global Warning.....	98
Trust .....	99
The White Light.....	100
A New Year's Wish .....	101
My Pen Will Never Rest.....	102
Thoughts.....	103



## DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to Homo sapiens, to us, who have survived drastic climate changes and earthly epidemics over the millennia. Let us pray that we change our way on Earth so as to survive this sixth mass extinction that is upon us now.

“There will be no reprieve, no stopping the progress of mass extinction, and man surely will be a victim within that. Our most damaging behavior is selfishness and aggression, and unless they can change rapidly there is no hope for the ecological destruction to be halted.” (p. 182)

FROM: *Extinction: Evolution and the End of Man*  
by Michael Boulter, 2002

“At all cost, we must assure the perpetuity of our human species and our highly developed technology and scientific knowledge. There is nothing more important for the human race.” (p. 706)

FROM: *The Durabone Prophecies*  
by Frederick Douglas Harper, 2011

As author, I express my gratitude to Dr. Edith Báez Báez and Ms. Jacqueline A. Harper for their comments on the manuscript for this book.



OTHER POEM BOOKS BY  
FREDERICK DOUGLAS HARPER

*And Jesus Spoke on YouTube*  
(2014)

*It's Not Too Late*  
(2013)

*On Social Justice, Climate Change, and Human Destiny*  
(2013)

*Tributes*  
(2012)

*Time and Timing*  
(2009)

*Beyond Fear*  
(2008)

*The Light Within Us*  
(2007)

*Transitions in Life and to Death*  
(2007)

*Poetica Erotica*  
(2006)

*Spiritual Teacher Speaks*  
(2005)

*Poems for Young People*  
(2004)

*God's Gifts: Spiritual Writings*  
(2003)

*Love Poems of Frederick Douglas Harper*  
(2003)

*Romantica: On Peace and Romance*  
(1988)

*Poems on Love and Life*  
(1985, 2004)



## INTRODUCTION

For 30 years, I have written and published poetry about the need for human beings to focus on ways to prevent our premature extinction as a species or as a human race. My first poetry book of 1985 includes several poems about human existence and survival such as “Technology and Human Destiny,” “No Color, No Shape,” and “Earth and Tree.” Since 1985, I have been blessed to author a total of 16 poetry books (with creative prose), and they all include poems with a warning against human extinction as well as poetic messages about respect for and appreciation of Earth as a living planet.

Since childhood, I have been curious about how we as human beings came to exist here on Earth and how and when our existence will end on Earth as one of its myriad species that die out with time and circumstance. Over the years, my curiosity has motivated me to read numerous books and view TV programs about the Universe, our planet Earth, and our human species (*Homo sapiens*). Several of the books that I read include Stephen Hawking’s *A Brief History of Time: The Universe in a Nutshell*, Michael Boulter’s *Extinction: Evolution and the End of Man*, Nick Lane’s *Oxygen: The Molecule That Made the World*, and Charles Darwin’s classic, *The Origin of Species*. I also read Barbara Ward and René Dubos’s *Only One Earth*, which, among other things, explains the delicate balances, cycles, and symbiotic relationships on Earth that are necessary for the survival of the various species. One of the most fascinating educational TV programs that I have viewed was “History of the World in Two Hours,” that was aired on the History Channel and is also available on DVD (see the Website, <http://www.history.com>). This documentary covers the 4.54-billion-year history of the Earth in a two-hour presentation.

From my readings and spiritual experiences, I have come to believe that God created Earth and thus included the necessary conditions for Earth to create a myriad of species over millions of years. Furthermore, I believe that Earth is God’s Garden of Eden; therefore, in my opinion, the Garden of Eden is not a place

on Earth; it is Earth. I further believe that God designed planet Earth with the capacity to manage itself; thus, to a degree, Earth has created and managed an atmosphere, habitats, and evolving species.

To date, Earth scientists know that approximately 99% of all species that ever lived on Earth are now extinct. This forebodes that humans (*Homo sapiens*) are likely to become extinct at some time in the future due to conditions on Earth or in its atmosphere that will eventually change in the future. The question is whether we can prevent premature extinction and survive longer than not. Please note my use of the word “premature” in suggesting that we can shorten our earthly stay if we continue detrimental influences on Earth and if we fail to prepare adequately to prevent or manage possible catastrophic, global events (e.g., impact by an asteroid or a global nuclear war). As a human species, we have the capacity (if we use it) possibly to determine our future survival, which is unlike the helpless dinosaurs that died out millions of years ago.

In 2011, I published a major novel of 700-plus pages titled, *The Durabone Prophecies*. Among other themes in the novel about human nature and human relationships, the novel prophesies three possible scenarios for human destiny: (1) human extinction, (2) regression of humans to a previous state of existence (e.g., due to loss of electric power, technology, and scientific knowledge), or (3) continued advancements in technology and science at the price of possibly diminishing our sense of humanity or humaneness. Also, the novel includes the most important message, in my opinion, that I have ever written for publication. This message to *Homo sapiens* states: “At all cost, we must assure the perpetuity of our human species and our highly developed technology and scientific knowledge. There is nothing more important for the human race” (Harper, 2011, p. 706).

During the history of Earth, there have been five major mass extinctions, and a number of scientists now believe that we are in the midst of the sixth mass extinction. Due to climate change and human impact on planet Earth, species are reportedly dying out at a faster rate than ever (see National Geographic, 2014).

Today, many of Earth's species are faced with life-threatening conditions and activities unlike those of any time in world history. These conditions and activities include human overpopulation, habitat destruction (including human-induced global warming and other climate changes), pollution, overharvesting (including over fishing and over hunting endangered species), and life-threatening disease organisms (e.g., the Ebola and HIV viruses). These global conditions and human activities do not speak to a single global event that can also cause a mass extinction such as impact by a large extraterrestrial object (e.g., an asteroid or comet), a global nuclear war, or a huge volcanic eruption, all of which can immediately and drastically alter favorable conditions for life on Earth.

In theme and message, *Toward Human Extinction: A Warning* is a follow-up to my novel *The Durabone Prophecies* (2011) and a poetry book that I published in 2013 by the title, *On Social Justice, Climate Change, and Human Destiny*. In these two poetry books and the novel, my message has been consistent and persistent in warning the human race to plan now to avoid premature extinction as a species, that is, if it is not too late to do so.

This book calls upon the leadership of the globe to save ourselves from ourselves by changing or discontinuing human-induced activities and conditions that have contributed significantly to the extinction of an increasing number of species while putting other species at risk for extinction, including our human species. *Toward Human Extinction: A Warning* contains new poems on the theme of extinction as well as selected poems that are reprinted from my previously published 15 poetry books.

Within *Toward Human Extinction: A Warning*, examples of selected poem titles related to the major theme of this book include "Toward Human Extinction?" "Peace with Earth," "A Prayer for the Human Species," "Biology 101, Section Homo Sapiens," "My Message to the Human Race," "And God Stepped Out from Herself," "There's a Cruel Wind Coming," and "Global Warming: Global Warning." To break the monotony of the same theme throughout this book, a minority of poems on other topics have been included.

Several titles of these poems are “A Tribute to Muhammad Ali,” “A Tribute to Jimi Hendrix,” and “A Letter to Sandy Hook Heaven” (as reference to children murdered in Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, 2012).

As a disclaimer, let me hasten to say that I am not an Earth scientist, geologist, archeologist, paleontologist, climatologist, or evolutionary biologist. I am an educator and a poet who cares, thinks, and writes from a universal and spiritual worldview. My purpose is to inform and encourage human beings to live cooperatively among each other, to live harmoniously with Earth, and to survive premature extinction as a species.

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Frederick Douglas Harper  
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## TOWARD HUMAN EXTINCTION?

How arrogant, vain, narcissistic, and mindless we are as Homo sapiens, as a human race;

How blind and deaf we are of reality to talk and write about saving other species but not saving ourselves as a species;

How blind and mindless we are to talk and write about the world coming to an end, but not realizing that the human race as a species may be coming to an end now;

How blind and mindless we are to talk and write about saving the planet but not saving ourselves as animals who are so dependent on livable conditions of planet Earth—its air, drinkable water, food sources, and optimal temperature range.

Tell me please:

Do we not take our privilege on Earth for granted?

Do we not take our God-given ability to reproduce our kind for granted?

Do we naively take Earth's resources as necessary for our worldly survival as an unlimited and eternal gift from God?

How naïve or uninformed are we not to know or realize that 99 percent of species that ever lived are no longer in existence—are literally extinct;

How naïve or uninformed are we not to prepare to avoid premature extinction as a species;

Should we pray, "God save the queen," or should we fall on our knees and pray, "God save us from ourselves?"

## IF I CAN SAVE THE HUMAN RACE

If I could save the human race from premature extinction as a species, I surely would;

If I could use my pen to write of God's messages through me to humankind to change its ways, I surely would as I so do and should;

If I could pray through word of pen and word of voice to warn men and women to change their destructive ways as a species, I certainly will, have done, and am doing as my destined way and purpose.

## TECHNOLOGY AND HUMAN DESTINY

When technology sweeps away individual creativity, productivity,  
Freedom, and decision-making;  
When computers seize the power of human conceptualization,  
Logic, ideation, and expression;  
When eating is no longer a pleasurable pastime  
But a distasteful means to an end;  
When love turns to hate, thoughtfulness to callousness,  
And consciousness to mindlessness;  
When robotic and cybernetic machines deny human beings the  
Right to work;  
When nuclear holocaust destroys the genetic integrity  
Of life's processes;  
When we look but no longer see the beauty of God's  
Flowers, trees, birds, land creatures, lakes, and mountains;  
When the Earth becomes a ball of smut and confusion;  
When nations fail to respect their citizenry, families their  
Members, and corporations their workers;  
When the speed of travel, the proliferation of variety, and  
The greed of pleasurable consumption perplex our day;  
When all that is good and natural is lost—  
Then, we will be forced again to realize our humanity.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2004). *Poems on love and life* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.).  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse. (Original work published 1985)

## WHILE WE DIE

While we die by choice with time's passing, many of us bury our heads in earthly things and selfish thoughts.

While we walk the narrow interstice of earthly survival and skate on the precipice of possible global disaster, we play and laugh and treat ourselves to a diet of stupidity, pleasure, and self-adornment.

In the midst of global warming, droughts, floods, nuclear threat, viral diseases, and close asteroid misses, we laugh on and fix our eyes on electronic devices of joy, convenience, and pseudo interactional texting without *real* face-time.

While the fast-changing globe and human technology threaten our very survival, we focus on the mundane and the frivolous by raising selfish questions such as:

What gifts am I getting for Christmas?

Who will I have pleasure with next?

How can I exploit another human being for my gain?

And what will I wear for this weekend's social event?

While we head to the guillotine and gas chamber of extinction, most all of us focus on practically everything except our survival as a species.

## A PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN SPECIES

Gracious spirits divine of past,  
Beseech our dear God  
That we as a species will last;  
And make of good our precious  
Gifts of mind and hand,  
That Earth will become a better place,  
And we as a human race  
Will not lose face;

Great spirits of God,  
We pray through you, that our  
Dear God will bless us too;  
Grand spirits of God and yore,  
We pray through you that our  
Dear God will bless us more;

And if we die as a species can do,  
We pray that our spirits will shape  
Earth's life anew.

AMEN

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2003). *God's gifts: Spiritual writings*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## ODE TO EARTH

All praise to God's Universe  
Of sacred energy—  
To His astronomical garden of flowers;  
All praise to God's jewel, God's pearl;  
All praise to God  
For His divine and living Earth;  
All praise to the sacred resource  
Of us, our life;  
All thanks for Earth's glorious stuff of life—  
Its air, water, and soil;  
Its divine mosaic of plants and animals;  
Every praise to God's Earth—with its daily  
Touch of His warmth as sunlight of our life;  
All praise to God's Earth as our home,  
As His home for us.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2003). *God's gifts: Spiritual writings*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## EARTH'S ANGER, A WARNING

When trees sing pain of wind's bruises,  
And sun scorches deep the crust of Earth;

When Earth shakes and quakes its  
Plates for days on and then no more;

When oceans spew pearls and debris from  
Their secret depths of dark hidings asleep—  
And life of land and sea bears for  
Thee no more;

When we are no longer here to ask  
When, what, where, or why,  
Then Earth will once again  
Be able to cleanse itself and live full again.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2003). *God's gifts: Spiritual writings*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## PEACE WITH EARTH

Loss of a life is unlike  
Loss of the life of a species;  
Loss of a human being is unlike  
Loss of the human race—  
A loss, an extinction from our own  
War against mother Earth.  
Make peace we must or die we will  
With Earth's air, water, plants,  
And animals;  
Make peace we must with God's  
Sacred whole or go we will  
The way of the dinosaur,  
The way of those which are  
No more;  
Let us have peace with Earth,  
Let us have peace on Earth,  
Let competition give way to  
Cooperation,  
And let existence give way to  
Coexistence.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2003). *God's gifts: Spiritual writings*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## STARDUST

Pulling in by gravity;  
Pushing out by fusion;  
Collapsing upon itself  
To throw out dust, stardust.

Creation from destruction;  
Creation to beauty;  
Creation to life;  
Order from chaos;  
The sun's stardust into our  
Earth and very life—  
As God's miracle of creation  
As God's method of recycling.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2012). *Tributes*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## JEWEL OF ANIMALIA

*And the Greatest Spirit spoke:*

“You are a jewel,  
My jewel—  
With the choice and capacity  
To make the world a better place  
For others in the kingdom of life,  
Or you have the choice to destroy it.  
For now, you have chosen the latter,  
But know that Earth is a more  
Important jewel and will survive  
Without you, Animalia Humanalia.”

FROM: Harper, F. D. (1988). *Romantica: On peace and romance*.  
Alexandria, VA: Douglass (out of print).

## A TRIBUTE TO MUHAMMAD ALI

Muhammad Ali, we of the world salute you, honor  
you, admire you, respect you, and thank you.  
You're not only the greatest boxer of all times, you  
were and are boxing;  
You were not only the greatest boxer of all times,  
but you were greater than boxing;  
You were more than boxing;  
You certainly were one of the greatest men that  
God ever created to walk planet Earth;  
You are one of the greatest human being ever to  
grace God's time;  
You are a true warrior, not only in the boxing ring,  
but in the arena of life;  
God made you a warrior against war and for  
peace;  
God made you a warrior against hatred and for  
love;  
God made you a warrior for happiness and of  
giving to those in need;  
You have the soul of 1,000 brave warriors;  
You have the heart of myriad saints;  
You can walk without fear of harm among the  
masses, because you surely have been  
protected by the hand of God and anointed by  
God's angelic spiritual guides;  
You love people, and they can see God's love in  
you;  
You love people and they return your love as a  
reflection of God's love of you;  
Before your birth, your soul was assigned to you,  
and, at your birth, your spirit was anointed by  
God;  
Thank you for teaching the world by your  
example;

Thank you for teaching the world the true  
meaning of courage to stand up for right and  
principles;

Thank you for teaching the world to love children,  
family, God, and people of all backgrounds  
and walks of life;

Thank you for teaching the world excellence in  
athletic performance;

You could have been a poet by name and in your  
time, but you were so in your living lines of  
rhythm and rhyme;

You could have been a comedian in name, but you  
were so in making many people laugh just the  
same;

You could have been a preacher in title, but,  
nonetheless, you were in your spiritual  
teachings and oratorical recitals;

Muhammad Ali, we of this world salute you, honor  
you, admire you, love you, respect you, and  
thank you.

## THE NEW WORLD ORDER

If we were fighting on a battlefield and were capable of being killed, would we recognize that possibility and risk and, thus, tread with caution?

If we were living in a time of extreme temperatures, quakes, droughts, floods, and winds, would we recognize the difference and feel the need to plan for survival in such conditions?

If we were living in a new age when many more than a few are losing control of their minds to pleasure or to random acts of public violence, would we notice and act to prevent such behaviors?

If we were living in the beginning of the end—the beginning of a new world order that could end our world as we know it or even end us as a species, would we know it and try to change our destructive ways?

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2014). *And Jesus spoke on YouTube*.  
Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## BOY AND FATHER

And boy looked into the river,  
Clear to the bottom;  
And father looked into the river,  
Clear to the bottom;  
And said, "Son, images of yesteryear's  
Big-city people, extinct like the dinosaur;  
Succumb they did to elements and  
Energy of their creation;  
Lost they did their comforts, conveniences,  
And pleasures;  
Lost they did themselves, their lives—  
To greed's inhumanity";  
And boy looked to father and answered,  
"Create a new image we must—so when  
We look together in a clear river, its image  
Pure and deep with a flow for all humanity  
And life; so sacred it will be, so worthy  
Of mother Earth."

FROM: Harper, F. D. (1988). *Romantica: On peace and romance*.  
Alexandria, VA: Douglass (out of print).

## BIOLOGY 101, SECTION HOMO SAPIENS

Human nature, human beings,  
Plagued by diseases over eons;  
Searching for medical treatment of pathogens  
In vivo;  
Victims of violence against self and others;  
Victims of pain heaped upon innocence and  
Earned reputations;  
Human beings on a fast track to extinction by  
Bent of their greed, violence, and earthly  
Alteration of a green environment so vulnerable  
And sensitive to balances of temperature,  
Sunlight, and resources for survival;  
A human race, so talented for creation, yet so  
Inclined to unnatural or unnecessary destruction;  
Welcome students of the future;  
Welcome to a world of fear and hope;  
Welcome to Biology 101,  
Section Homo sapiens.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2008). *Beyond fear*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## GATES OF HEAVEN

I have been to the gates of heaven,  
And there I was imbued with the Spirit  
Of the Universe that is Whole and Divine;  
I have been to the gates of heaven on a  
Beam of light unknown but felt—  
And there I learned the love of God and the  
Knowledge of time without end—  
Then I felt peace; then I knew peace;  
Then I realized my existence and mission  
Without knowledge of such knowing.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2008). *Beyond fear*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## THE BRINK OF HUMAN EXTINCTION

I'm wordless to say  
Anything or more of the  
Time of us, we live today;

Have not we learned  
Of dread to come if things  
Not now or soon undone and done?

Have not we learned  
A thing or more about  
Living and loving ourselves  
And Earth?

And now we die as species  
Can do—with thoughts or  
Less of need to know or will  
To act to save ourselves  
From ourselves.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *Transitions in life and to death*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## SIGNS OF OUR TIME

Listen to the signs; listen to the time—the time in  
which we live;  
We're living in a time that may be the beginning of  
the end of our time;  
We're living in a space so much different from all  
the other spaces of our human times, a space with  
consequences that we don't realize and fully  
understand;  
We're headed for a destiny that is much of our  
making.

As a poet, I would be remiss if I didn't say that I  
fear for us, our children, and their children as I  
fear for divine creations of other forms of life in  
God's earthly Garden of Eden, that are so  
vulnerable to Earth's climate changes.

As a human species, we are headed for the  
guillotine; we are headed for the execution of  
ourselves as a species as we so arrogantly trod  
ahead with smiles on our faces.

We are headed for the guillotine with smiles on  
our faces as a lost species that is so engrossed in  
our technological devices of entertainment, social  
networking, convenience, and comfort.

God Save the queen; God save the children;  
God save Your creations of earthly life.  
God save us as a species by waking us up to save  
ourselves, while it's maybe not too late.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2014). *And Jesus spoke on YouTube*.  
Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## GOD SPEAKS

I'm one, whole, and all things—  
All things as one divine existence;  
I'm not a part from you, but you are a part of Me,  
For I am the existence of all things.

From Me, as all existence, springs light  
Of the sun as your star and light of the moon  
As reflected from your sun's light.

You sprang from me as my creation  
As did all things and all life;  
You need not destroy for the sake of destruction,  
As all things are sacred as creation,  
And all life is sacred only to be changed  
By time and natural necessity or circumstance;  
To destroy life other than for survival  
Is to destroy part of Me as your God.

As human beings, you are one group, one species;  
You originated in one place on Earth and spread  
To populate other places on Earth, changing  
Your image by the places you so occupied over millennia.

I designed you as I designed other species—  
By giving you the ability to spring from and adjust  
Over time to your earthly conditions;  
I created you and then endowed you with the ability  
To recreate the likeness of yourselves as my trustees.

## CAUGHT UP IN SELF

There are people, too many, who are caught up—  
caught up in self;

There are people who are blinded by their ambitions  
and their search for status, power, and empty pleasure;

There are people who are obsessed with their ego and  
narcissism to the point of being oblivious to the needs  
and feelings of others;

There are people who simply cannot see beyond the  
horizon—they cannot see beyond themselves.

## A TRIBUTE TO JIMI HENDRIX

When Jimi Hendrix died, so unexpectedly,  
The electric guitar died with him, so it seems;  
When Jimi died, his spirit kissed the sky  
In a heavenly purple haze;  
Jimi Hendrix made music talk;  
He gave spirit to song;  
He rocked to life our USA National Anthem;  
Jimi Hendrix—a musical angel sent,  
Jimi Hendrix—a creative genius of music,  
A child of God who found his light of talent  
From within and made it shine oh so beautifully  
Well to many;  
Jimi Hendrix—a child of God,  
Jimi Hendrix—a child of Jamaica,  
Who grew up to be a powerful man of music—  
Music that moved many by its sounds;  
Jimi Hendrix recorded music that still moves  
The spirit and stirs the soul;  
Jimi Hendrix, play that guitar; play it forever;  
Play that guitar on your recorded sounds—  
Sounds that you left for us to enjoy;  
Jimi Hendrix, play your miraculous music  
As you so beautifully did in Woodstock of 1969;  
Jimi Hendrix, play your sounds forever  
Here on Earth and in heaven.

## MY MESSAGE TO THE HUMAN RACE

Live together to help each other and not hurt each other;

Cooperate as groups and nations; do not violently compete, fight, and kill;

Care for the children—rightfully guide them, protect them, and love them as God so loves you;

Share with and give to those in need, and do not take that which is not yours or not given to you;

Respect the beauty and sacred creations of God's Earth, and live in harmony with Earth;

Work together for the prevention of premature extinction of the human race as a species.

## A LETTER TO SANDY HOOK HEAVEN

My dearest Sandy Hook children of 2012,  
Please know that we remember you, we miss you, we  
love you, and we live with thoughts of our loss of  
your earthly presence;

My dearest Sandy Hook children, relieve your parents  
and loved ones from sadness and grief, and assure  
them that you are at peace and with joy in heaven.

You're gone in body and earthly image but not in  
spirit as one single heavenly force for good;  
You're not gone as one unified spirit in heaven;  
Therefore, I call upon your spirit to save the earthly  
children when and where you can;  
I call upon your unified spirit beyond to protect and  
watch over children of this day and days to come—  
those in danger now and those predisposed to danger  
in the future;  
I call upon your unified spirit to save children from  
selfish and criminal-minded adults who seek to  
kidnap, persecute, exploit, and abuse them.

Sandy Hook children, I call upon you to save little  
helpless boys and girls from adult predators of  
schools, youth organizations, summer camps, and  
houses of worship—predators who gain their trust  
and violate their little bodies for sacrilegious  
pleasure.

Sandy Hook children, I call upon you to save the  
children from being beaten unmercifully by parents  
and caregivers—save them from violent injuries and  
death;

Save the children who, like you, could be shot by deranged adults or those who can even be shot by their fellow youth as they go about their innocent lives in schools, churches, summer camps, neighborhoods, and elsewhere.

Sandy Hook children, make a new school in God's heaven, and never let us on Earth forget you;  
Make a new family among yourselves and with God as your loving parent.

Sandy Hook children, never allow us to forget you and your unintentional sacrifice for all children of the world;  
Never fail through the power of your unified spirit to fight each day for the safety, guidance, and love of all children of God's Earth.

# FIGHTING

Humankind, human beings, Homo sapiens:  
Fighting all the time, fighting throughout  
Our history:  
Fighting animals to survive;  
Fighting each other to take and not share

Fighting, Fighting, Fighting:  
Fighting one another and fighting as groups;  
Fighting in wars between countries;  
Fighting among groups within countries;  
Fighting to overthrow governments of countries

Fighting, Fighting, Fighting:  
Fighting against viruses and bacteria—  
Fighting deadly and crippling diseases;  
Fighting radiation from nuclear power plants as  
With Japan's Tsunami and Chernobyl's nuclear  
Power plant disaster of Ukraine

Fighting, Fighting, Fighting:  
Fighting against intruding technology that's stealing  
Our personal control and privacy;  
Bad fighting and good fighting for cause—  
Fighting everything except vigorously fighting  
Against our premature extinction as a species

## WAKE UP HOMO SAPIENS

Wake up; the time is near  
As quickening changes push possibly  
To our end—  
Avoid we can or die we then;  
Wake up Homo sapiens and smell  
The roses; smell the sweet magnolias;  
Smell the white gardenias;  
Wake up and live life so intended in  
God's global Garden of Eden;  
Please wake up fellow Homo sapiens,  
Or we will all sleep forever.

## GOOD RELIGION, BAD RELIGION

Is a religion worthy if it turns people away who need help?

Is a religion worthy if it turns people away who are different from the majority of its worshipers?

Is a religion worthy if it turns people away who question its beliefs and practices?

Is a religion worthy if it punishes its members for simply making mistakes in life or just being vulnerable as human beings?

Is a religion worthy if it turns people away who are addicted to alcohol or other drugs?

Is a religion worthy if it punishes women and girls for wanting to learn in school or simply wanting to do things that men and boys are privileged to do?

Is a religion worthy if it denies women the same opportunity as men to be religious leaders of its faith?

Is a religion worthy if it turns people away, deny their participation, or punish them for their human flaws and troubled or wrongful ways?

## AND GOD STEPPED OUT FROM HERSELF

*And God stepped out from Herself as whole and said:*

People are going damnation crazy—  
Warring against themselves, killing their  
Young, killing the Earth as my garden of  
Gift to them;  
How in the devil's hell can they be so stupid?  
But still I made them with all their imperfections;  
Was I in error to give them choice—to give  
Them the capacity to make choices to create as I?  
Oh my God; now look at Me;  
I'm so stressed, I'm talking to myself.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *The light within us*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## THINGS THAT DON'T MAKE US CIVILIZED

Fighting between countries and fighting between groups within countries do not make us civilized;

Playing vicious interpersonal games and laughing at the misfortunes of others do not make us civilized;

Taking more from others than we need and not sharing our abundance do not make us civilized;

Destroying that which is sacred just for sport, game, and fun does not make us civilized;

Pursuing our selfish desires and needs while failing to protect and nurture our youth does not make us civilized;

Standing by and doing nothing about global hunger, deadly diseases, severe poverty, global violence, global warming, and worldwide persecution when we can help or stop such suffering does not make us civilized.

## NO COLOR, NO SHAPE

No color, no shape they have;  
Both essential, but taken for  
Granted in their abundance.

Often invisible and disguised;  
However, their absence can  
Be known and felt.

Their existence is necessary and  
Sacred for all times—  
Not to be misused, abused,  
Or contaminated.

No color, no shape;  
Our need for them cannot wait.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2004). *Poems on love and life* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.).  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse. (Original work published in  
1985)

# STOP THE KILLING IN THE NAME OF RELIGION

Men in the main, killing in the name of religion;  
Killings between religious groups;  
Killings within religious groups;  
Killing and falsely justifying such by religion;  
Killings between Muslims and Christians;  
Killings between Irish Protestants and Irish Catholics  
over decades;  
Killings between Israeli Jews and Palestinian  
Muslims;  
Killings between Islamic Shias and Islamic Sunnis; no  
matter what, it's wrong, outright wrong;  
Killings in the name of God, when God did not give  
anyone permission to kill for difference or hatred or  
naught;  
Stop the killings in the name of religion;  
Stop the killings in the name of the God of us all;  
Stop the killings now or we will face death in the  
same way of the dinosaurs.

## A PLACE WITH NO TIME

There is a place beyond our earthly world  
Where time does not exist;  
Where all things are connected as one;  
There's no space between events and things;  
There is a place beyond our world where  
All existence is unchanged or constant;

There is a place beyond our earthly world  
Where all existence is One—  
Where there is no space between and  
No beginning or end;

There is a place beyond our earthly world  
Where all existence is constant and One and  
Whole;

There is an existence where all things are  
Heavenly and Heaven is Spirit as One.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## FIRE IN THE WIRE

Humans, dependent so much  
On fire in the wire without awareness  
Of how much so or why;  
Homo sapiens, much dependent  
On sparkling fire so sleeved as a sheathed  
Hot wire;  
Without it, life as we know it will cease,  
And some people will even die;  
Without it, we will go back; yes, we will go  
Backward to a way of life and culture of  
The early 1800s if not the 1700s;  
With fiery wires, we've become satisfied, but  
We may find we will be satisfied no more;  
Fire in the wire, fire in the wall,  
Fire in the ceiling, fire underground,  
Fire from pole to pole against the sky;  
With it, we've taken it for granted as ours to keep;  
Yet, rush we should and must to create options—  
Options other than electricity.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2013). *On social justice, climate change, and human destiny*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## THE FUTURE OF US

Are we wise enough?  
Are we spiritually connected enough?  
Are we interested enough to know  
Our future or to know the future  
Of us as a human race?  
Are we wise enough to know our destiny  
Or, even more, to shape our destiny as  
A species, as one human race?  
Are we wise enough to know and to act  
Before it's too late to avoid extinction—  
Too late to prevent premature extinction?

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2014). *And Jesus spoke on YouTube*.  
Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## AND GOD CREATED A ROCK

God in time created a rock from dust and  
Set that rock afire to bake and then cool,  
And from that rock sprang life.

The rock's life changed to understand itself  
And its world and the cosmic world beyond;  
God created multicellular, intelligent life from a rock,  
And that life became too smart for its own good,  
And so it was no more as past dinosaurs you know.

## THERE'S A TRAIN COMING

There's a train coming—  
Yonder curve;  
There's a train coming  
Down the hill—  
A massive moving force, it is;  
A wave of steel and more;  
Mass and speed, building  
Velocity galore.

There's a train coming—  
Can you hear it?  
Can you see it now or  
Hear the whistle's sound?

Get ahead of the train,  
Get on the train,  
Or, even better, drive the  
Train to your destination.

There's a train coming—  
There's a message on its side;  
Board the train, sound the  
whistle, shape the force  
As future—  
As your future and our future  
As a human race.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2008). *Beyond fear*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## THERE IS A GOD

We exist; ergo, God exists as all existence,  
Not as part from us, but as a part of us—  
As one, whole, and connected.

When I look at the talent and the spirit of  
Child prodigies and child savants,  
I know that God exists;  
When I feel the cool breeze and the warm sunlight,  
I know that there is a God of us all;

When I smell the flowers, the fruits, and the trees;  
I can sense God's presence therein;  
When I see the natural animals of land, sea, and air;  
I know that there's a creative force as God;

When I write beautiful poems that transcend  
My human ability,  
I realize and know that there's a God,  
Because God is in me and has spoken through me.

## LIFE'S STAR

I awake by the light of the star  
from the East;  
I awake once again to another  
morning as God's grace upon me;  
I awake yet again to say thank you  
God for another morning of my life  
as your purposeful life for me—  
For another day to do your will;  
Thank you dear God for your light  
of talent within me;  
Thank you dear God for the light of  
your morning star as our sun—  
Your morning star as our precious  
sunlight of life.

## AUTUMN

The breeze signaled its presence through  
The bristling colored leaves of trees—  
Autumn leaves that speak of  
God's season's change;  
Can you see—beautiful colored leaves of red,  
yellow, orange, purple, gold, and brown?  
Can you feel the presence of  
God at work?

The breezes of autumn leaves lay waste to  
The last gasp of summer's remain; yet,  
The season of autumn so fixed with time,  
Thus comes as God's plan of life divine.

## A BRIEF PRAYER FOR PURPOSE

Dear God, I humbly pray this prayer and plea:  
Keep me on your path for good;  
Keep me close in the protection of your care;  
Lift me from day to day to do your good work  
Until I can no more;  
Then allow me to die peacefully and with  
Dignity and grace.  
AMEN

## DESTINY

We can choose our future  
From courage,  
Or we can choose our future  
From fear;  
Destiny is often what we allow  
Ourselves to accept, or  
It is what we choose, will, and  
Make as our own.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2008). *Beyond fear*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## LAWS OF LIFE

1. If something appears once, it is likely to appear again over time and in space.
2. Similar things appear in different forms, sizes, and places.
3. Everything is related and interconnected in some way, because everything originated from the same source and, thus, is the same source.
4. A collective state of thoughts of a people is constant within a time and over time, but can also change within a time and over time.
5. Human beings are not perfect and vary in their goodness of constitution, but all people are vulnerable to their own emotions, impulses, and organismic flaws.
6. On a higher plane of life after death, there may be no such thing as time and space, as all is one and connected in one spiritual mind, body, or state of energy.
7. There may be [spiritual] existence and energy in earthly space that cannot be detected by the range of the human senses.
8. Human life on Earth continues after death in the spirit of [one's] life's work and in the physical bodies of the offspring.
9. The only known constancy in the entire Universe is probably change. Practically or absolutely everything changes over time.
10. Change is predictable if a phenomenon occurs at the same time, in the same fashion, and in the same place or context. The order or occurrence of cyclical change can be affected by a change in the context in which the change occurs.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2005). *Spiritual teacher speaks*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## LIFE IS A ROSE

As a rose, life sprouts from fertile soil,  
And as a bud, it opens to the challenges  
    Of its world,  
Bathing in the rain and soaking  
    Its pores in the sun—  
Like roses, some lives bloom,  
Each unique in its form and path;  
And as a rose, life's petals fall with time's ending;  
Death's call from beauty's youth leaves  
Images in one's mind to be savored.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2005). *Spiritual teacher speaks*. Bloomington,  
IN: Authorhouse.

## PEOPLE ARE DYING WITH TIME PAST

People are dying all around  
As light fades with sun's image—  
An era of one's knowing buried  
With the passing of the makers  
Of the time.

People are dying all around us,  
Those who were with us then and when—  
Smiles, sadness, and emotions galore  
Attached to events' past.

People are dying  
All around as the  
Sun sets to West's view,  
And cool breezes  
Blow autumn leaves to rest,  
And babes breathe of  
Future hopes and their years remain.

The Great Spirit and ancestral spirits  
Of yore hover above and around  
To write destiny's story or  
Future's script;  
Yet so obliviously we  
Plough and plod from  
Day to day in self-imposed  
Agony, when joy and goodness  
Can be our friends.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *Transitions in life and to death*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## A SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God of us all,  
Please help us to:  
Help the hungry,  
Help the poor,  
Help the sick,  
Help the suffering,  
Help the wrongdoer,  
Thank you.  
AMEN

## AS WE DIE, WE PLAY

As we die, we play;  
As we die, we play  
Games and sports galore;  
As we die, we play  
With little thought to pray;  
As we die, we play;  
We kill each other from rage,  
Greed, and selfishness;  
As we die singularly as humans,  
As we die as a human species,  
As we die as a human race.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2012). *Tributes*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## THERE'S A CRUEL WIND COMING

There's a cruel wind blowing beyond the horizon;  
Can you see it; can you feel it?  
There's a violent force of nature harkening from  
Afar—beckoning our civil call;  
There's a cruel and violent wind blowing our way  
To change our way;  
There's a wind of the future of our own making—  
A violent wind coming that we have spun our way;  
There's a cruel wind coming from afar,  
A violent wind coming to shake us from us—  
To shake us from our own greed and selfish  
Absorptions and obsessions;  
I warn you; love the planet, stop the fighting,  
And love the children and all life.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *The light within us*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## TIMES CHANGED

Times changed,  
People unhappy with  
    The same thing;  
Times changed,  
Technology came;  
Runaways—  
Runaway horses,  
Runaway cars,  
Runaway brides,  
Runaway grooms,  
Runaway spouses,  
Runaway children,  
Runaway prices,  
Runaway bills,  
Runaway rivers,  
Runaway ocean tides;  
Times changed,  
People changed,  
Things quickening in change,  
Little remains the same.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2012). *Tributes*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## TIME AND SPACE

In this life on Earth, there is time and space—  
From one moment in time to another,  
From yesterday to today to tomorrow,  
From the past to the present to the future,  
From one place on Earth to another;

In another world, these dimensions of  
Time and space do not exist,  
Because all existence is connected and  
All existence is constant and unchanged;  
Therefore, nothing moves and nothing changes;  
Everything is One as Spirit and Whole.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## PRECIPICE I

All Humanalia, standing at the precipice  
Of final days as a species—standing with  
No will to turn around, no will to reject  
Destiny's extinction.

Priding in the intellectual ecstasy of  
Technological minutia;  
Riding on a wave of electronic entertainment—  
So oblivious to the natural sources of respite  
And recreational beauty: of sun, moon,  
Flowers, lakes and seas, and mountains.

God's human creation gone awry and numb—  
Standing at the precipice of a blind destiny  
To deaf ears that refuse to give attention to signs;  
God's human creation gone awry and numb—  
Standing around and moving ahead in nothingness  
Droves as blind wildebeests gone astray.

Please pray for our destiny and a will to save  
Ourselves as a human race—to create a human  
Culture of cooperation and earthly synergy that  
Can very much be.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2005). *Spiritual teacher speaks*. Bloomington,  
IN: Authorhouse.

## TELESCOPE HUBBLE

Hubble, show the way, I pray—  
To save us humans for a future day;  
Hubble, light our origin, oh so bright,  
And show God's destiny through  
Interstellar night;  
Turn your lens light years away to reveal  
Time's truth on this precious day;  
Photograph beauties of God's creations  
Painted billions of years across the past, and  
Give us Divine knowledge through science  
As a human species that must last.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## TIME STOLEN BY TECHNOLOGY

Information, communication, and  
Entertainment technologies;  
Some as time's savers,  
Some as time's thief;  
Technologies that more often than not  
Addict the mind, shroud the soul,  
And facilitate abandonment of loved ones;  
Yes, desktops, laptops, smartphones,  
iPads, iPhones, electronic game and toys,  
Satellite radio, cable TV expanded, Internet,  
And more—devices that we often allow  
To steal human time from another or others,  
While making us oblivious to the real world's  
Beauty and opportunity that surround us, and  
While making us oblivious to our feelings,  
Thoughts, and human needs;  
Listen Humanalia; choose your lifestyle or  
Allow electronic devices to choose you  
As their slave.

*Note. This poem was revised to update technological language.*

*Netbooks and iPods were deleted from the original poem, and smartphones were used instead of the outdated language of cell phones.*

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## TECHNO-INSULATED HUMAN

Now tell me this,  
Have you ever had  
The TV going and going,  
On and on—  
So you didn't hear  
Yourself think or chew?

Have you ever been  
Obsessed with morning  
Thoughts of your day's challenges  
That you missed  
The ticking sound of a clock,  
The dripping from a faucet,  
The chirping of birds outdoors,  
The rainfall on the roof or street top,  
Or view of the rising sun?

Have you ever been  
So encapsulated in a  
Plane or train or car or spa  
That you failed to even think about  
Trees, the bloom of a flower,  
Or the presence of squirrels in a park,  
Or birds in a treetop, or  
A seal on the shore beneath  
A beach house up high?

If you have lived but not  
Known life, looked but not seen,  
Heard but not listened,  
Rushed and not noticed,  
Then I pity your existence and beg  
Of you to take time to live.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *Transitions in life and to death*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## THE PROPHECY

As Homo sapiens, the prized  
Animals of Earth, in the Garden of  
Eden as Earth, we can choose our destiny  
Or we can allow the dark side  
Of destiny to choose our future;  
The prophet of this day  
Is here as we pray;  
But recognized by few,  
Some await what He will do;  
The Messiah is here  
As others before; however,  
With blinders on, few have  
Observed to know that  
Earth in time will certainly die,  
But humans before may sadly be  
Forced to say goodbye;  
Days' end will bring a time that we  
Or our children may see, when  
Food will be worth more than gold,  
And water will be worth more than wine;  
Famine will lead to disease, and  
Disease will lead to more famine;  
As God's prized jewel of animalia,  
We can choose the time and quality of  
Our remaining life on Earth—  
Simply by anticipating and planning  
And by cooperating as one human race.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## DEHUMANIZING OF HUMANS

Demise of Homo sapiens of today,  
As dinosaurs of yesterday;  
Oblivious to a world of our own making;  
Makeup on tired faces and stress on weary  
Bodies so numbed by technological conveniences,  
Entertainment, and comforts;  
Minds so suffocated and confused by a deluge  
Of media mania and psychological insulation  
From others;  
Feigning for the job's prize and groping  
For sensual pleasures in shells so void and numb  
Of meaningful sensations and spiritual meaning;  
Wake up or die as a species.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2008). *Beyond fear*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

# HUMAN FORGIVENESS AND HUMAN DESTINY

*And Earth spoke:*

“I’m alive with you  
And you with me as one;  
To desecrate me  
Is to desecrate yourself,  
A demise of your making—  
My dear Humanalia,  
My dear pearl of God’s  
Earthly creation;  
You break my plates  
To nowadays frequent earthquakes;  
You soil my air  
To disgusting level of despair;  
You rot fisheries of the oceans,  
Waterways, and seas—  
With chemical and spoiled garbage;  
And now I’m in earthly rage  
To save myself, my earthly self,  
So that your death as a species  
Will breed Earth anew to the  
Birth of a new planetary life,  
With a grander species than you—  
Only if that is your wish and destiny.”

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2005). *Spiritual teacher speaks*. Bloomington,  
IN: Authorhouse.

## LIFE BEYOND

Time brings slow decline toward demise,  
But spirit can breathe of life anew;  
Throw off the yoke of Earth's vessel's  
Shell to ascend beyond to yonder's  
Heaven;  
Throw off possessions that bound the  
Spirit and shroud the light of fulfillment  
And spiritual destiny;  
Leave behind thoughts of loss and regret,  
For death's door foretells of  
A time of peace and eternity;  
Prepare we to die from this life one day,  
So pay our debts before we lay—  
Learn we must of how to live by  
Loving, giving, forgiving, and enjoying.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2008). *Beyond fear*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## FUTURE OF HUMANKIND

As a human race, our future is extinction as in the case of 99%\* of all species that ever lived on planet Earth. Our task as one species is to avoid premature extinction—to extend our existence here on Earth and possibly elsewhere in the Universe.

As a human race, our future challenge is to cease fighting each other as countries, ethnicities, religions, and individuals, but rather to live harmoniously and cooperatively to enjoy Earth as God's Garden of Eden and to make Earth a better place on which to live.

Our future is to learn not only how to survive, but how to survive well and long as one human race, helping each other for each other.

*\*Note. Figures for the extinction of all species that ever lived tend to range from 98 percent to 99.9 percent.*

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2013). *It's not too late*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## IF HUMANS ALL DIE

If humans all die,  
Animals in the wild will multiply;  
If humans all die,  
Satellites up high will fall to Earth  
From the sky;  
If humans all die,  
Pets trapped in homes without food and  
Water will have to say goodbye;  
If humans all die prematurely before  
Their time to die,  
It will be because they have not planned  
To survive as God's chosen species—  
How sad; my oh my.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2013). *It's not too late*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## CLIMATE CHANGE, HUMAN CHANGE

Youth killing youth;  
Youth befriending youth;  
Adults killing children;  
Adults protecting and loving their young;  
Land going dry;  
Forestland burning crisp;  
Tornadoes and hurricanes blowing away  
Homes, schools, houses of worship, and life;  
Heavy rains flooding cities and towns;  
Foods modified with chemicals and additives,  
And by genetic engineering;  
The global environment and the natural way  
Of life modified by humankind;  
Countries and regions warring against  
Each other;  
It's not too late for us to step outside of our  
Bodies and see ourselves as one human race that's  
So much dependent upon and in need of each other—  
So very much interdependent.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2013). *It's not too late*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## WHAT IF?

What if we cease to have electricity in the future or a sufficient amount of electricity?

What if most women of the future will cease to be able to get pregnant or bear life or most men will cease to be able to impregnate women or fertilize an egg due to lack of sufficient sperm or quality sperm?

What if extreme weather conditions will cause global famine and starvation that will threaten human survival?

What if global warming will increase droughts and continue to melt ice at the poles (as predicted), thus causing ocean levels to rise and flood low-lying cities of the world, threatening global economies and human living conditions?

What if we continue to live as a human race without considering or planning for these possibilities and probabilities?

## WHY DO WE THINK WE'RE SO INTELLIGENT?

As a human race, why do we think arrogantly that we're so smart, that we're so intelligent?

As a human race, we are such a miniscule part of God's Universe, vulnerable to death as a species. Certainly, 99% of all species that ever lived on Earth are now extinct.

So, what makes us think that we can live on Earth forever to the very end of Earth's life as a planet, which is several billion years beyond our present time?

What even makes us think that we can survive another 100 years given the rapidity of global changes with current and imminent threats to our welfare and survival? Yes, why are we so concerned about saving polar bears and not ourselves? Do we think that we are invincible and will never be at risk for extinction?

Surely and unfortunately,

An asteroid that's big enough can crash into the Earth at 25,000 mph or more and wipe us out;

A large comet can smash into our Earth and possibly end our existence;

A gamma-ray burst could bring down the curtain on much of Earth's life;

A global nuclear war can wipe out much of human and animal life via radiation of water and soil and a blockage of sunlight by dust strewn in the atmosphere.

Therefore, if we think we're so intelligent as a species, we need to act intelligently and take global steps to save ourselves from ourselves.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2014). *And Jesus spoke on YouTube*.  
Bloomington, IN: Xlibris.

## NOSTALGIA AROUND THE FIREPLACE, 2040

My children, gather around this electric fireplace and listen to me:

When I was a child, it was lots of fun when we used to go to the movie theater on Saturdays, and sometimes we would stay all day for cheap tickets.

*Grandma, what's a movie theater?*

Look here; I wish I could take you all to a bookstore like my mom did when I was a little girl—we just browsed and drank hot chocolate while we read. Oh, it was so much fun.

*Grandma, what's a bookstore?*

In the olden days, we could just go to a computer store and pick out a desktop computer we liked and, then, just take it home, all within an hour or so. Now, you have to buy it online and wait for a truck or one of them flying drones to bring it. You just don't know what you're buying until you get it.

*Grandma, what's a computer store and what's a desktop computer? Is a desktop computer like our pop-up computer pads built into our school desks?*

Well, listen to this. In the olden days, I remember getting my first allowance—it was a paper one dollar bill, crisp green money—oh, it was so exciting. It was such a joy!

*Grandma, what's a paper one dollar bill?*

## IMMINENT EXTINCTION?

If I were to tell you that there is a present-day great dying of land animals and sea life, would you believe me?

If I were to tell you that present-day species of plants are rapidly dying out due to droughts, human activities, and other conditions, would you believe me?

If I were to tell you that almost all present-day earthly animal species of land and sea will one day become extinct, would you believe me?

If I were to tell you that the human race, as *Homo sapiens*, is mutating and that we may eventually change our form and functions, would you believe me?

If I were to tell you that one day there will be a grave shortage of food and drinkable water, and human beings will fight each other for the limited supply in order to survive, would you believe me?

If I were to tell you that we are obsessed with fighting each other and having fun, and oblivious to our need to survive as a species, would you believe me?

If I were to tell you that the human race could all die out prematurely or become extinct as a species, would you really believe me?

## BECAUSE I SMILE

Because I smile much, as you can see, it doesn't mean that I'm happy all the time or even happy most of the time, but it does mean I'm happy deep down inside, at the core of my very being and soul. It does mean that I have all intentions to make myself happy and to generate that happiness to others whom I encounter.

Because I laugh, it doesn't mean the world is funny; it does mean that I can laugh at healthy humor and generate such laughter to others from my intentional core of happiness and positive thoughts.

I ask of you to put a spontaneous smile on your face to enlighten others, and know always that the light of God from the reflection of others will come back to lift your spirit and light your day. Be serious but don't take too many things seriously, thus learning to laugh or make humor about that which does not matter.

When we laugh as appropriate, others will laugh and smile with us.

Remember the words of the song by the great Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong: "When you're smiling, the whole world smiles with you."

## THE TRANSIENCE OF BEAUTY?

Natural beauty is indeed beautiful—especially at  
its peak of beauty; for example,  
Red roses, tulips, orchids, or cherry blossoms at  
the peak of their bloom,  
A vibrant, happy, youthful dog or cat,  
A pretty girl or beautiful young woman, or  
A handsome and dashing boy or young man.

But time, though cruel to us, withers and shrinks  
that which appealed to our eyes of youth—  
And although the permanence of physical beauty  
can persist in the mind's memory, memories do  
and can fade with time;  
Nevertheless, with time gone by, we must retain  
and appreciate beauty through photos and  
salvaged memories of precious times shared and  
loving relationships that remain.

As John Keats once wrote,  
“A thing of beauty is a joy forever.”

## SUCCESS AND FAILURE

When you are highly successful in life,  
With financial resources and influence on others,  
There are those who expect you to be everything to  
them and others;

When you are highly successful in life in a position of  
power or authority,

There are those who expect you to do everything for  
everybody or just for them;

When you are highly successful in life,

There are those who expect you to join their cause in  
life as your cause;

When you are financially successful in life, there are  
those, including family members, who expect you to  
lend them money if not give them money repeatedly;

When you are highly successful in life, you may  
acquire many hanger-ons, quasi friends, and false  
friends.

However, when you are *unsuccessful* in life, fall on  
hard times, lose your health, or fall from grace, there  
are those who expect if not ask you to stay out of their  
life and get out of their way;

There are even those you helped who are not likely to  
help you, even if you're in dire need.

## DANGER

If you repeatedly play with fire, you're likely to get burned;

If you repeatedly handle poisonous snakes, you're likely to be bitten and maybe killed;

Likewise, if you perform with or train large cats and other ferocious animals or hike in the wild where these animals roam, you may one day be bitten and even killed;

If you climb challenging mountains, you may be killed or die from frigid exposure or a fall;

If you repeatedly jump from a plane in flight, you can have problem with your parachute system or a fellow jumper and likely fall to your death;

If you repeatedly swim with dangerous sea animals, you're likely to be hurt if not killed;

If you repeatedly deal in crime with others, you're likely to be caught and sentenced to imprisonment or death, that is, if not killed by your fellow criminals;

If you take unsafe risks on motorcycles, you could likely have an accident—sometimes fatal;

If you choose to own a gun, be careful, because you or a loved one could accidentally if not intentionally be shot by that same gun;

Simply, if you expose yourself to potential danger, you could likely be hurt if not killed.

## WHY IV?

Why is it people claim to be your friend only when they need you for some reason?

Why is it that some billionaires wear T-Shirts in public—what image, message, or purpose rest therein?

Why is it that in many cultures women are expected to be virgins at marriage and men are not?

Why is it that some men and boys rape women and girls that they know, befriend, or run into in isolated places, dark spaces, private places, or public places?

Why is it that some men and boys rape women and girls during violent wars between countries or violent conflicts within countries—why, why, why?

Why is it that golf balls, basketballs, racket balls, baseballs, softballs, and soccer balls are round but not rugby balls and American footballs?

Why is it so hard to find a hot dog in America nowadays?

Why it seems that so many TV programs are very much about competition and hatred and not much about cooperation and love?

Why is it that men chew gum and then throw it in the toilet latrine?

Why is it that people throw chewed gum on the ground, floor, or stairs for others to step on it and then have to scarp it off the sole of their shoe?

Why do some people throw a burning cigarette butt out the window from a moving car or vehicle? Don't cars and trucks have some type of ashtray for smokers?

Why is it acceptable in some cultures for women to bare their shoulders in business and social attire, but it's not acceptable for men to do so for the same occasions?

Why is it acceptable in some cultures for men to bare their chests in public, but it's not acceptable for women of the same cultures to do the same thing?

For some groups, why is getting a tear-drop tattoo for killing someone considered to be a badge of honor; shouldn't it be a badge of shame?

Why is it we can drink beverages of different colors, but our urine always seems to come out as clear or amber?

Why did people in ancient history very often build tall or very huge buildings for religious purposes, and nowadays exceptionally tall or large buildings are constructed for commercial and business purposes?

Why is it that some of today's hairstyles look as if a person has been in a fight, a storm, or an electric chair?

## I LIKE YOU

*And he said upon first view of her image:*

I like the way you smile;  
I like the way you talk;  
I like the way you stand;  
I like the way you move and walk;  
I like you.

## TOO PROUD, FALSE PRIDE

*Too much self-pride can be false pride:*

Some people are too proud to accept advice from others;

Some people are too proud to admit their mistakes or shortcomings;

Some people are too proud to accept a genuine compliment with grace or to compliment deserving others;

Some people are too proud to apologize for their failures or oversights or to forgive others for their failures and oversights;

Some people are too proud to say, "Please" or "Thank you";

Some people are too proud to listen to the common sense of a child, spouse, or parent;

Some people are just too proud to listen to wisdom from the wise or simply to know when someone has come into their lives to help them;

Some people are too proud to express their vulnerable, human feelings and say things such as "I love you";

Some people are too proud to just keep their mouths closed or walk away when they should;

Some people are too proud to humble themselves to give God the glory.

## IT'S TOO HEAVY GRANDMA

Grandma, this firewood for your fireplace is too heavy, because I'm only used to lifting things like fries, burgers, and biggie sodas; Grandma, this baby is too heavy, because I've been used to just lifting things like a computer mouse and a smartphone; Grandma, this iron fry pan is much too heavy for my arm and wrist, because I've just been used to lifting a fork and spoon; Grandma, this travel bag for my college send-off is just too large and heavy, because all I've known is a backpack with easy arm straps; Grandma, how did you do all of that heavy lifting back in the day?

Child, let me tell you something; we learned to lift heavy, because we had no choice—  
*Like* carrying heavy wood for the wood stove,  
*Like* carrying a heavy bucket of water from the pump well that was a football field away,  
*Like* carrying heavy babies from the bus stop that was a half mile away from our house, and  
*Like* handling heavy bales of cotton.

Child, listen to me; we learned to lift heavy, because we had no choice; we had to. We carried heavy and we carried long, and all of this, of course, made us strong; It made us strong of body and mind.

## I'VE GONE WITHOUT FOR MUCH

Yes, for years, I went without or with little, but still I kept my faith in God, ancestors, and myself;  
I walked in the rain until sunshine came;  
I weathered storms and was blessed with no harm;  
At times, I went without food, money for clothing, payments for college, or fare for transportation;  
Yet still I trudged God's path of personal growth and giving of my time and service to others;  
I passed God's test of challenge to earn His continued protection and anointed blessings to develop myself and to help others.

Now, as I looked down a mountain climbed—  
Now, as I look back over rocky roads traveled,  
I can feel the fulfillment of accomplishments and  
Of God's good grace and blessings:  
I've earned three college degrees including a doctorate;  
I've been blessed with two fine sons and four lovely grandchildren;  
I've been blessed to write many articles and books as  
God's mission for me to help others through His word;  
I've been blessed to own safe cars for travel and comfortable homes for living;  
Most of all, I've received the blessings of God's protection and health, the guidance of His spiritual and angelic messengers, and the development of His light of talent within me so as to share that gift with others.

## DOES IT MATTER?

If someone intentionally *says* something to hurt your feelings, ask yourself, “Does it matter?”

If someone intentionally *does* something that hurts your feelings, ask yourself, “Does it matter?”

If someone fails to say “thank you” when they should or when you expect them to do so, ask yourself, “Does it matter?”

If a person is late arriving to meet you, ask yourself, “Does it matter, that is, if it doesn’t matter?”

If you are rebuffed when you help another or try to help another person, just ask yourself, “Does it matter?”

If a person in whom you are personally interested is not interested in you, ask yourself, “Really, does it matter?”

If a person was once personally interested in you but is no longer interested in you, ask yourself, “Does it matter?” And after you ask yourself this question, then move on with your life—

Especially if it is God’s will.

## UP AND DOWN

Some people set you up to  
Sit themselves down;  
Some people butter you up  
To lay you down;  
Some people build you up  
To tear you down;  
Some people fill you up  
To use you up;  
Some people lift you up  
And keep you up.

## WHAT WE MUST LEARN

*As God's teachers and healers, we must learn:*

At times, we must allow a person to fall in order for that person to learn how to get up;

At times, we must allow a person to suffer through pain so God's pain will hone spiritual strength and personal growth;

At times, we must allow a person to discover knowledge and truth for self than to give a person the solution to a problem or the answer to a question;

At times, we must help a person to develop a way of self-support and self-sufficiency than to provide sustained help and enabling for that person;

At times, we must hold our tongue when there is the impulse to speak our minds of moral truth or to protect another person's feelings, because surely there is a right time and circumstance for such words if ever.

## LOOKING TO GOD

I look me there upon the sea,  
And pray dear God to help me please;

I look there yonder upon tall green trees,  
And thank my God for satisfying my needs;

I pray dear God to keep me safe and free  
And to protect my loved ones I beg of Thee.

## ALONG LIFE'S WAY

As we all walk along a dusty trail,  
Each will eventually fall with time passed;

As we all walk on greens of lush spring grass,  
Some will trip too soon along the walk and way;

As we choose to risk the rugged climb,  
Some will fall from the mountainside and others  
Will celebrate upon the peak;  
Thus is the way of life's journey.

## CURTAIN'S FALL

How cruel it seems; yes,  
How cruel it seems to us, that is,  
When God pulls the black curtain—  
That black curtain of earthly life that calls  
Us home to God's spirit world.

Though sad to us it may be,  
Happiness abounds in the birth of life  
Afterwards—in the birth of a new spirit  
Life with God's existence of  
Peace, freedom, oneness, and joy.

## PEOPLE WANTING TO BE ELSE

Why is it that people often want to be something else other than what they should be or what they have been blessed to be?

Why is it that people often want to have a job title or job other than what they have and have been blessed to do?

Why it is some people want to project a certain image, for example, an image of being tough, or cool, or important, or pretty, or sexy, or wealthy?

Why is it that sometimes athletes want to be intellectuals and intellectuals what to be athletes?

Why is it that sometimes musicians want to be athletes or intellectuals and athletes often want to be musicians?

Well, it's okay to want to be two or more things as a career if you can do these at a high level of excellence. But, tell me, why is it that people oftentimes don't *do their best* to realize the single light of talent from God that was naturally given to them?

Why is it that human beings don't focus more on developing their special gift from God and then giving of its creation or service to others? Won't this, in great part, make them a better human being and the world a better place for others?

## BLESSED BUT SOMETIMES CURSED

If you are blessed much to be loved by many,  
You may also be cursed to be hated by a few;

If you are blessed much to be loved by one,  
That one may one day hate you much too much;

If you are lauded and praised for your gifts from God,  
Know that there are those who will hate you for  
Your blessings or will seek to use you or take from  
You that which you have been blessed to have or do.

Just beware that the blessing to carry God's cross  
Often comes with joy as well as pain and burden.

## PREPARING FOR LIFE AND DEATH

Preparing for daily life,  
Preparing for eventual death;  
A process of becoming older or being old.

Preparing for life; preparing for death—  
Wondering how you will die and when;  
Wondering where you will die;  
Giving thought to where your body should  
Be buried or whether it should be cremated  
Or even donated for medical use as parts for the  
Benefit of another or others or for  
Scientific research or medical training;  
Giving thought to how your assets should  
Be bequeathed in your will if you are fortunate  
To have accumulated significant assets.

Yes, these are things people think about or  
Should think about as time passes and  
Circumstances change—  
Yes, these are things people should think about  
Before they get old or before they die unexpectedly,  
Because we never know when our days on Earth  
Will come to an end.

## DON'T JUDGE BY APPEARANCE

Just because a teenage boy wears  
long hair, tattoos, and loose-fitted clothes,  
that doesn't make him a thug.

Just because Einstein and Beethoven wore  
their hair long and sometimes disheveled,  
that didn't make them out to be thugs.

Just because Jesus wore his hair long and was homeless  
and unshaven, that didn't make him a thug.

Be careful not to judge a person by outward  
appearance or image. Just be very careful.

## WHAT IS STRENGTH?

Of course, you've heard that only the strong survives, but I ask of you,  
What does this mean; what is strength?  
Does it only mean the physically strong will survive over the less physically strong?  
Again, I ask of you, "What is strength?"  
Does it mean those with resources, wealth, and power who use these to satisfy their needs or to influence people to do their will?  
Can strength mean those in possession of the more powerful weapons and their willingness to use such to take from others as a means of power, greed, or survival?  
What is strength? Can it mean those who talk loudly and most persistently in demanding for themselves or for their cause or case?

And what is the place of mental strength such as Emotional control and emotional freedom, perseverance and not quitting, logical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, right choice and sound judgment, resistance to inappropriate pleasure, freedom from addiction, moral responsibility, and management of grief and depression?

Ask yourself, "Who is actually strong, and what is strength in one's culture and in our world today?"

## CAUGHT UP II

Sometimes, we're so busy rushing  
That we don't notice our position;  
Sometimes, we're so busy running  
That we don't notice the other runners;  
Sometimes, we're so busy rushing and running  
That we don't notice God's journey for us—  
God's opportunities before us;  
Sometimes, we're so busy rushing  
That we are unaware of the natural beauty  
Around us—  
The sights and the smells of trees and  
Flowers and the miracles of life's creations;  
Sometimes, we're so busy rushing through  
Life that we fail to see and appreciate our  
Loved ones;  
We even fail to know and see ourselves.

## NEVER TELL A CHILD

*Please, I beg of you, never tell a child these things:*

Never tell a child, “I hate you”;  
Never tell a child, “I wish that you were never born”;  
Never tell a child, “I brought you into this world,  
and I will take you out of this world”;  
Never tell a child, “You’re no good; you’re just like  
your father”;  
Never tell a child, “You’re no good; you’re just like  
your mother.”

*Please, I beg of you, do tell a child these things:*

Do tell a child and say it often, “I love you”;  
Do tell a child, “I honor the day that you were  
born”;  
Do tell a child, “You can accomplish anything if you  
believe you can”;  
Do tell a child, “I will do everything that I can to  
help you to become all that you can become and to  
be fulfilled and happy in life.”

## SHE'S A HERO

She's a hero; don't you know?  
She's a hero, from head to her toe;  
She's a hero; she's that and much more.

She's a hero, on the basketball floor;  
She's a hero from shore to shore;  
She's a hero in the judicial court;  
She's a hero in politics and much more;  
She's a hero in her neighborhood and town;  
She's a hero at home as a mom.

She's a hero;  
She's our hero,  
She's their hero.

*Note. This poem came to me on March 26, 2014 at 4:45 a.m. in a dream of a singing, ballet-dancing young woman.*

## IF NOT SOMEBODY, THEN HAVE NOBODY

If you can't have somebody who cares about you,  
it's sometimes better to have nobody;  
If you can't have somebody who cares about self,  
it's sometimes better to have nobody;  
If you can't have somebody who honors and  
respects you, your family, and your friends,  
it's better to have nobody;  
If you can't have somebody with the right mind,  
body, and spirit, it's sometimes better to have  
nobody;  
If you can't have somebody who can bring help,  
happiness, and peace to your life,  
it's often better to have nobody.  
If you can't have somebody to love you for who  
you are and what you strive to become, then  
it's better to have nobody at all—  
It's just better to have only the love of God and  
the guiding spirits of benevolent ancestors.

## REDEFINING STRENGTH

Sometimes, you have to take the high road instead of the low road;

Sometimes, you have to turn and walk away rather than confront another person, either verbally or physically;

Sometimes, you have to climb the mountain rather than wallow in mud of the valley or with filthy garbage in the alley;

Sometimes, you must detour your original path rather than take that easy and straight route or take the attractive scenic route to nowhere;

Sometimes, you need to yield the last word to an insecure egotist or narcissist who needs it more than you;

Sometimes, you have to bypass complaint or protest if the cost is greater than the possible outcome;

Sometimes, you have to say,  
“I’m sorry.” “I’m wrong.” “Please forgive me.”

## A TIME WHICH IS NO MORE

There was a time—  
A time which is no more,  
A time passed as the past;  
There was a time when people talked and  
walked less fast;  
There was a time when people took the time  
and were mindful to say little nice things;  
There was a time when food was real and love  
stood still in the park, on the lake, by the  
ocean's shore;  
There was a time when a person was much *less*  
*likely* to be killed by just being in the wrong  
place at the wrong time;  
There was a time when many people of the  
Western world felt a spiritual connection to a  
God beyond, but now too many often worship  
themselves and abscond.

EARTH'S CHANGE:  
DEATH OF SPECIES IN END OF DAYS?

The Earth is dying as we sleep;  
The Earth is changing as we robotically  
Go about our waken routines and senseless  
Rituals of pleasure, status, power, and foolish  
Pastimes.

Polar bears know not death's extinction with  
Earth's warming, and  
Species of frogs and birds jump and fly  
To death's end, while humans see not the signs  
Along life's dusty road—a future so shrouded  
In death's silent call and  
So reflected in our destiny's making.

REVISED AS TAKEN FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *Transitions in life and to death*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## TIME'S CLOCK IS DYING STILL

Words of spirit flow like  
Angels from heaven's gate,  
And still messages of good fall  
On destroyers' blind eyes and  
Deaf ears.

God is certainly not asleep in  
Her omnipresence, and Earth's  
Rage is not helpless yet—  
In defense of itself.

Good people do still cry, while  
Others laugh and lie from ilk  
Of their own confusion and  
Selfish deeds and needs.

Rise Homo sapiens;  
Clean the clutter from your  
Twisted minds and the vile  
From your dormant souls asleep.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *Transitions in life and to death*.  
Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## THREE BOYS AND A QUESTION

*Three boys were asked, "What do you want to do when you get old like your grandpa?"*

The first boy to answer stated, "I want to spend all the money I have and enjoy good food, expensive cars, luxurious hotels, pretty girls, and fine jewelry."

The second boy answered, "Once I get old and retire, I want to travel all over the world and see different cultures and live in the finest hotels. Oh, I would also give money to my children and grandchildren when they may need it."

The third boy thought much and answered, "I wish to walk outside occasionally and feel the sun at day and see the stars, moon, and planets at night. I want to walk along the beach and smell the scent of its presence and hear the roar of the ocean. I want to inhale the fragrances of flowers and appreciate the beauty of Earth's mountains and trees. And early in the morning upon awakening, I wish to hear the thoughts of God through me as messages for my day."

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## TIME'S SIGNALS

The sun yields to night as the moon to day,  
Blackbirds migrate before winter's Norway;

Babies born in autumn and in first months just lay;  
Blackbirds return in summer as healthy babies  
Walk and play;

Seed the soil to flower the fruit, and rear the  
Child but spare rebuke;  
For time signals change in every little space—  
Time signals change for the whole human race.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## TOO BUSY TO BE HUMAN

Times changed toward a hurried pace  
And self-centered motives;  
No time to say “Hello” or “Goodbye”;  
No time to smile or inquire about another’s welfare;  
No time to say, “Please” or “Thanks”;  
No time to send “thank you” notes or greeting cards;  
No time for flowers, a quiet dinner, or romance;  
No time to kiss before consummation;  
No time or thought to say “Excuse me” or “I’m sorry”;  
No time to visit the sick at a hospital or  
Honor the dead and support their survivors at a funeral;  
No time to sit in peace alone and just  
Think about life, oneself, and loved ones;  
No time to love a child or help the poor and the old;  
No time to pat a pet;  
No time to cook a real meal from scratch or  
Talk to a friend in person or on the phone;  
Times changed with people and in people—  
More competition to be the best and get the most,  
Or just to survive;  
More focus on the selfish self and much less  
Interest in cooperation and sharing—  
Yet times seem to be changing in the hearts of  
Many who seek to help, act to give, and  
Choose to love.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *The light within us*. Bloomington, IN: Authorhouse.

## GLOBAL WARMING: GLOBAL WARNING

Perilous times of cyclical changes,  
A globe in reckless human hands;  
Violent volcanoes spurn their anger,  
Earthquakes and fire bring human pain;  
Glaciers with Earth's warming now melt  
At the poles,  
Waters rise in cities' lowlands and along  
Coastal seashores.

Tears of loss and hopelessness with time's  
Passing will surely bring more human tests;  
Act now we must to save our hide,  
Or suffer we will a painful ride;  
As warning, let's build cities on watery seas,  
And construct floating homes I beg and plea;  
Store more food in an earthly safe place,  
Do the same with fresh water to avoid loss of  
The human race.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2009). *Time and timing*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

# TRUST

Trust is believing that a person will do what he or she promises to do;

Trust is believing that a person will do what he or she is expected to do;

Trust is believing that a person will tell you the truth;

Trust is believing that a person will love you unconditionally;

Trust is believing that you can depend on a person in times of challenge, grief, or need;

Trust is believing that a person *won't* intentionally do things to deceive you or harm you;

Trust is believing that there is a spiritual power or energy beyond that will protect and guide you, especially if you follow a rightful journey in life;

Trust is believing or hoping that there will be abundant water and air for human survival;

Trust is believing that the sun will shine through to our Earth as necessary for food and life.

## THE WHITE LIGHT

LOVE, PEACE, AND JOY;  
Let us strive for these--  
Let us strive for these in our  
Hearts, our thoughts, and our  
Actions.  
Let us strive for the  
“White Light” here on Earth  
Through peace in the world,  
Joy in our hearts,  
And love toward one another.

FROM: Harper, F. D. (2007). *The light within us*. Bloomington, IN:  
Authorhouse.

## A NEW YEAR'S WISH

Let this New Year engender your new ways of thinking and living;

Wait for nothing, but find the insight and will power now to lift yourself higher to a new way of joyful living, healthy living, willful forgiving, and unselfish giving;

Let this New Year for you bring intentional happiness of your making;

Acknowledge and enjoy your gifts from God, and waste no time lamenting or worrying about things that you don't have, things that you cannot control, or things meant to be as the will of God;

Live fully now without regret about the past or fear of the future;

Open your heart to a new way of thinking and living;

Open your heart to the love from and the pain of others, and sacrifice for the good of others and God's world;

Open your heart to God's light and love within you.

## MY PEN WILL NEVER REST

I write because it is what I do;  
I write because it is what I'm supposed to do—  
What I was anointed by God and spirits before  
For me to do;  
I write because it is a reflection of the souls of  
Writers before that reside within me;  
I write because it is my earthly purpose, my mission;  
I write because it is my *raison d'être*—  
My very reason for being;  
I write because it is the word of God through me—  
It is the word of spiritual guides through me;  
I live to write, and I write to live;  
I will write in earthly form until I can write no more,  
And then my spirit beyond will write even more  
Through writers of earthly form after me,  
Through the living souls of those born of Earth  
After me.

## THOUGHTS

We are on a fast track not to destroy the Earth but rather to destroy ourselves as a species.

§

There is much that we need to learn about human nature and the human spirit.

§

Dance is the expressed spirit of the body and the language of the soul.

§

We should rear children by example and word, while also exposing them to growthful learning experiences.

§

Why is it people often claim to be your friend when they need you most?

§

We should live to make those in our world better, and we should live to make the world a better place than it would have been if we had not lived.

§

Sometimes, our emotions blind us to God's opportunities that are presented to us. Sometimes, our speed of journey along our highway of life makes us oblivious to the divine road signs along our path.

§

Being a teacher is not always a good thing, because there may be a tendency to volunteer an answer or to answer every question asked. A great teacher must learn when to say nothing, when to speak, what to say, and how to say it. A good teacher teaches another how to teach self; a good teacher motivates a student to seek learning and love learning outside the classroom.

§

For those capable of self-control, there is only one excuse for destructive behavior, and that unacceptable excuse is, “I’ve not been willing to stop my destructive behavior.”

§

When we give, we receive much more as a result—because the act of giving becomes our gift.

§

As a society, we often create circumstances for heroism and heroes; then, we abandon heroes when they, themselves, need to be rescued.

§

People often see and tell their viewpoint of a relationship gone bad, which may not be reality or truth from the other partner involved or from an objective bystander.

§

If God has your soul, heart, mind, and time, you have little time for anyone or anything else—thus, the explanation of the lives and intense drive of Michelangelo, Harriet Tubman, Albert Schweitzer, Helen Keller, Einstein, Mahatma Gandhi, George W. Carver, Handel, Tchaikovsky, Isaac Newton, Leonardo da Vinci, and Heron of ancient Egypt.

§

The musician and the musical instrument are one when they truly become one in performance.

§

Countries that cherish and develop their youth develop their country and secure its future.

§

I once held the hand of my sons as we walked during their years as boys. Now, God and the spirit of ancestors hold their hand and guide their way as men.

§

Girls and women are the temples of life and the mirrors of God's reflection.

§

The value of a woman should transcend adornment and sexual pleasure.

§

Another institutional religion is not necessarily what humans need. What we most likely need is a universal way of thinking about religion and spirituality as a way of life.

§

The more in life that you don't like, the fewer things in life that remain for you to like.

§

Those who become special are likely to be chosen by God and God's spirits to do special things, and, therefore, they very often willfully accept the road to becoming special.

§

People who don't know what they want, often buy or accept "everything" that they think that they like.

§

Information slavery is a new strategy of enslaving information about you and then not allowing you to access it or to manage it, for example, Internet Websites and social networks.

§

To find out if a person is of good heart and spirit, you should observe carefully how a dog or a young child reacts to that person's presence.

§

Teach your sons how to be men by example and word, then allow them to be men when they come of age. Do the same for your daughters as future women.

§

If you see a person looking out into empty space or staring but not necessarily seeing or focusing, don't assume that the person has a mental problem. That person may very well be in touch with a higher power beyond earthly existence.

§

Some people will say any outrageous thing to be seen and heard, and some groups will allow them a stage for their message or exhibition.

§

Avoid or minimize time that you spend on "dislikes," as there are so many "likes" worthy of your attention.

§

Don't look defeated before you are defeated. Don't act defeated if you don't want to be defeated by whatever or whomever.

§

Some people don't talk much at all, but when they do talk, they are likely to say something worthy of hearing—so listen carefully.

§

In this new world age of gathering our personal information and monitoring our locations and actions, we have become the new slaves. The sad thing about this type of slavery is that either we don't know we are slaves or we just don't care.

§

Poets are the conscience of a people. They nudge us from our indolence, fear, and sleep to rightful action. Poets make us aware of how to live outside of our bodies and how to see things as they really are.

§

Many can sing well, but few are special as singers.

§

A cross to bear in life can carry much pain, but that same cross can, if allowed, lift you to God's purpose and mission for you and, thus, fill you with joy.

§

Teach people by example not to steal or take from others, and they will likely adhere. Give people worthwhile jobs, and they will likely not feel the need to steal.

§

Some people are anointed and destined. They often follow a path that is shown by the Spirit of God and the guidance and protection of God's angelic helpers.

§

Sunshine and moisture can open a rosebud to bloom. Time and exposure to the elements can wither that same blossom. Surely, time is but a window to change.

§

Among other things, love is quality time spent with those who matter.

§

Don't start a fire if you don't know how to put it out. Don't start a fire if you can't put it out.

§

We are all captives of our past to some degree.

§

There are those who want a relationship, but they do not want to start a relationship. There are some people who want to be loved, but they either don't want to return love or don't know how to love.

§

Can a religious leader effectively teach and role model a way of spiritual living and sacrifice if that person chooses and accepts to live in a palatial home, ride in luxury, engage frequently in pleasure, or dress in expensive clothing?

§

Some people are often expected to be everything to everybody. The sad thing is that many of these people try unsuccessfully to live up to these expectations.

§

Marital divorce is not necessarily a failure, and the decision to stay married is not necessarily a marital success.

§

There are some things that are neither good nor bad; they simply are what they are.

§

God's cross is heavy to bear, but if you can carry it through the storm, you will likely see sunshine and a rainbow in time, and that same cross will serve to lift you higher in life.

§

The Spirit of God-given knowledge is not based on figuring out things through research or intellectual analysis, it is simply knowledge that is given to you and hopefully accepted by you as truth.

§

I live to write and I write to live, as it is what I do. It is what I was born to do.

§

People who deserve more should not lower themselves to accept less.

§

Greedy pigs will eat from any trough.

§

Many people are gifted, but they lose much valuable time in life by consistently searching for the "P's" of life: a persona, a partner, a purpose, a place, and a path in life.

§

Some people don't change their way until they're in the grave or scattered out to sea.

§

In a cohesive family ancestry, vibrant roots often run deeply and branches extend widely.

§

When and while God has your soul for His purpose, no one should have the pleasure and right of managing your body.

§

Challenges and pains of living can serve to refine the spirit, awaken the soul, and drive one's mission.

§

Those who keep their feelings and thoughts to themselves in silence deny the opportunity for mutual understanding in a relationship.

§

God very often works through the creation and service of His anointed people.

§

It's difficult to congratulate people who have too much pride. It's difficult to recommend anything to those who think that they already know it all.

§

Tests of life include how we manage challenges across life's time as we age.

§

One cannot genuinely worship God while worshipping pleasure and material possessions at the same time?

§

Often, the closer people are to each other in daily life, the greater the impairment of their sight and insight about that other person.

§

In civil conflict and struggle, one person's "resurgent" may be another person's freedom fighter. One person's "militant" may be another person's defender.

§

You can't get anything if everything is taken; ergo, patience can be a liability as well as a virtue.

§

There are those who constantly do their work, and there are those who talk about the work they will do, the work they have done, or the work they want people to think that they are doing or have done.

§

If you become highly successful, it seems everybody who knows you wants to be special to you even if they have not earned a special place in your life.

§

Everyone is afraid; the question is of what.

§

It's difficult to work with people on a benevolent cause to help others when their only cause is that of helping themselves.

§

Many times, the greater the blessings, the heavier the cross to bear, but, with pain and challenge, comes a fulfillment in life that is total joy and fulfillment.

§

It takes two willing persons to make a loving relationship work. However, it takes only one of those persons to abandon the other and end the relationship.

§

As a human race, we must all learn to live together or surely we will all die together as one species.

§

True love is joy; lasting love is a joy forever.

§

If a person is with another or others and they all are doing "bad" things, it doesn't mean that that person is being influenced to do "bad" things. It could very well mean that the person is already prone to do "bad" things

without influence or that the person could even be the influencer of wrongful action by companions.

§

The human body is like a motor vehicle; it eventually deteriorates with time. The human body is like a motor vehicle; if it is not maintained properly or sits in one place for too much time without use, it will deteriorate even faster.

§

God created the conditions for our creation, survival, and development with almost unlimited possibilities except possibly one—the ability to get along in peace with each other as one human race.

§

A gift from God of great spiritual value is known by its presence.

§

If one reaches out to you, please realize that that person may not be trying to get something from you or take pleasure with you. The God-sent person may only be trying to help you or enlighten you.

§

If two persons are *truly* in love, then let no other judge them or their motive.

§

An excellent commencement speech is when much is said and said well with inspiration, economy of words, and some occasional humor.

§

We are not just one life in our time, but we are many lives over generations of time, as life continues in DNA, spirit, and soul.

§

People who give much often sacrifice much. It is their destined way.

§

Many who worship money are likely to end up with little to no money, because poverty is indeed a child of greed.

§

Ask yourself, “Which is of greater value and when, a live hero or a martyr?”

§

Time always brings change, and change is indeed the only true constant.

§

God’s earthly angels are light and love. Through their kindness and giving, they reflect the light of God and the love of Jesus.

§

Some people who say nice things about the dead may be apologizing to the dead through witnesses among the living, when they really should have apologized to the dead when the dead was alive on Earth.

§

Happiness is intentional, and victimization is often accepted.

§

Extraordinary people are people who do extraordinary things over their earthly lifetime. They often represent extraordinary talent, exceptional character, and benevolent human values.

§

A problem with human relationships is that there are too many judges, complainants, and defendants.

§

Among the saddest things in a romance is that it often “dies hard.”

§

Where there is trust, one has to accept ahead of time that there can be disappointment.

§

Some life experiences are chosen and some are divinely destined and accepted.

§

As human beings, when we assign value to something, it becomes valuable. Otherwise, gold and paper money would be worthless.

§

For some people, their voluntary interface with you is totally about what you can do to help them.

§

Many people try to dress and act cool in order to be liked. Then, there are those who are naturally cool beyond ice without effort.

§

Looking good and having someone to make you feel good is not enough for a healthy, constant, loving relationship. The foundation of a healthy relationship is built upon collaborative and mutual giving and not just on consuming pleasure from another or taking from another as selfish privilege.

§

Beware of forces of evil in war and crime who attempt to impose their ways and wrongfully take from the innocent.

§

Over time and within culture, we often learn to accept normality as what is expected and valued by a great number or majority of people, sometimes, no matter how illogical or unjust.

§

Those who talk things up, will often talk things in, that is, talk things into existence or reality—whether these are good things or bad things.

§

There are some people who spend a lifetime giving, that is, giving to themselves.

§

In the wild, one mother's loss is another mother's gain; therefore, such explains the hunt of the lioness.

§

If one is anointed by God, that person does not need to be entitled by man.

§

Poetry is about capturing an earthly experience or a human experience with words and being able, as the poet, to communicate the experience to readers so that they will experience the same and thus own the experience as theirs.

§

As with each of us, others have their imperfections and idiosyncrasies. For the sake of love, we have to determine whether we are willing to accept or tolerate the imperfections and idiosyncrasies of others, that is, if these are not likely to change over time.

§

In life, there is often misunderstanding and misinformation in our relationships. Sometimes, it is unfortunate that we may never get a chance or choose to explain or rectify these.

§

Some people who come into your life seek nothing from you. Rather, they are sent by the Spirit of God to help you along your journey.

§

When accepted as God's will, pain brings forth beauty and hones the spirit within us for a future purpose for good.

§

Love is allowing God to smile through you and to use you as an instrument of His song to evoke smiles from others.

§

In some cases, those you help the most can sometimes hate you the most. Also, those who idealize you as perfect can later come to criticize you as imperfect in many ways.

§

Some romance can be as sweet as the sweetest apple, but in time can become as sour as apple cider vinegar.

§

Those who talk much too much in degrading others can surely end up eating their words if not swallowing their teeth.

§

One difference between the sexes is that a woman can always tell when a man is not ready, but a man cannot always tell when a woman is not ready.

§

Given a global crisis that results in a significant shortage of food and water, we will see a huge decline in order and civility.

§

A truly spiritual message from God comes from a source and existence that is beyond intelligence or religious scriptures.

§

If you're fortunate or blessed to be honored in public, do remember to honor and acknowledge those humans and the Spirit of God that made it possible for you to be so honored.

§

When you pursue a path of right and good, God will put opportunities and helping people along your way.

§

Ignorance is an infectious disease for those without an educational vaccine.

§

Can we as a human race afford not to accept an opportunity for survival that is offered to us by a Divine Existence beyond our known earthly world?

§

Those who try too hard to please others will often fall short to please themselves, that is, by failing to fulfill the light of purpose within as destined by God.

§

When you willingly turn over your control to another or others, you lose control which you may never regain.

§

If things are already perfect, don't make them imperfect. If things are already right, don't make them wrong.

§

A good poem moves the soul, the spirit, the heart, and the mind.

§

Be careful what you say in front of your children, because they may be likely to repeat it uncensored and without regard for context.

§

Often, money is power and power is money, but, at some point in a life, one may have to minimize or relinquish both for a sense of wellbeing and happiness.

§

Just because you've been told in life that you're pretty or handsome, don't think that this is enough. The basic question of life that you must ask yourself is, "What am I doing or have done to develop my God-given talent and to help others?"

§

There are those who want attention, but they do not want to give attention. There are those who want to talk much, but who do not want to listen.

§

If you want the Spirit of God to come to you upon prayer; then, it would help to prepare your heart and mind for God's coming.

§

Sick minds can make the minds of others sick, and a sick leader can corrupt the minds of a country.

§

Have you ever asked yourself, "Is there a God?" If so, then answer yourself by saying, "Yes, there's a God, because I exist as a creation of God's divine works."

§

Everyone who slips on a banana peel is not guaranteed to get a helping hand.

§

If you are a winner in life, people are inclined to claim you, claim that they knew you when, or even claim your winnings.

§

What the mind doesn't consciously realize, the spirit will likely instruct.

§

We can never be perfect in earthly flesh. Only in heavenly spirit can we be perfect in love, peace, purity, rightfulness, forgiveness, and joy.

§

Those who run fast toward fame and money often blindly run by those intended by God to help them and genuinely love them.

§

There are many meaningful, beautiful, and valued things about getting old, only if we create these or discover

these within our world and the world that we create for ourselves and others.

§

A good poem cannot be judged on technical merit. A good poem is simply a poem that people like. The more people like a poem, the better the poem.

§

Killing is not a natural way of life, that is, when it comes to killing each other for no logical reason at all.

§

Doing the right things often means not having to apologize for your actions.

§

There are some questions that you best not answer. For example, if you answer “no,” you will not be believed, and, if you answer “yes,” you will be condemned.

§

A pattern of excuses, unkept promises, suspicion, and constant blaming will damage a relationship if not end it.

§

“What was” is, and we cannot go back to capture what could or should have been back there and then.

§

All worthy religions should respect all human beings and sacred things, and they should teach their members to serve and create for good.

§

If someone asks you the same spiritual questions more than once, it can mean that you have the answer or that you are their answer.

§

One of the greatest gifts that one can receive is the gift of beautiful and wise words.

§

Fighting among human groups and individuals is one of the most deplorable phenomena of human reality and existence.

§

When you don't know the true history of your ethnicity or culture, then anyone can tell you a lie. If you don't think that your people were worthy of a great heritage and legacy, then anyone can make you believe a lie.

§

Be careful, because some people who you allow to come into your life can take your life.

§

The price of love is quite frequently losing that love.

§

To achieve is commendably noble and noteworthy, to excel beyond notable achievement is divine.

§

With time, children will likely grow up and grow away from their parents.

§

Don't search for yourself, but, rather, allow yourself to find the you within.

§

Human beings may very well die prematurely as a species, because we simply haven't demonstrated the will power to live in a way that we should and could.

§

Time tests us, repeatedly.

§

God forgives, when many humans do not. Jesus forgives when many Christians do not.

§

Ask yourself, "How many people on Facebook actually practice what they post and preach to others?"

§

The unknown can become very attractive when the known loses its attractiveness.

§

Be careful not to choose an addictive path of pleasure that can very likely steal your health and wealth, if not your life.

§

From pain can come beauty. From challenges can come God's wisdom, joy, love, and light of your journey's way.

§

There cannot be an effective democracy for the citizens if their political leaders spend much if not most of their energy on saving their jobs and keeping their political group in power.

§

Dinosaurs threatened the existence and natural development of life on Earth; thus, they were eliminated from Earth. Now, humans are doing the same things, so what meaning could lie therein.

§

The true cure of all diseases comes with death of the body and a birth of the spirit.

§

By our good deeds, we should continue each day and in every way to manifest our love for God as our reflection of God's Spirit at work.

§

The more good that we do on Earth as human beings, the greater will be the magnification of our spirit in God's sacred existence.

§

We are not only here on Earth to learn things from libraries, but to receive and know things from a spiritual, universal library that is all heavenly knowledge of the past, the present, and the future, because time is divine and of one Godly existence.

§

There's a difference between being important and feeling important. There's a difference between being important and trying to make people think that you're more important than you are.

§

God is good at matching those people who are meant for each other, if only two potential partners listen and follow God's spiritual messages.

§

When a man is able to acknowledge an attraction to a woman's spirit and not her body, he then transcends his sexual vulnerability and preoccupation.

§

A civilized society must give women the right to develop and work in every way while being careful not to deny men the same right in doing so.

§

Surely, we must realize in life as in romance that the greater the expectation, the greater the disappointment.

§

Those who very often want and seek attention may not deserve the very attention that they desire.

§

The Spirit of God manages Earth and not the technology and science of humankind.

§

The human body has a tremendous ability to make itself sick as well as to make itself well.

§

The more formal education one acquires, the more that person is likely to talk and the less that person is likely listen.

§

God is not likely an entity apart from us but rather a divine existence that is inclusive of all of us.

§

Always spread your joy and sing your gratitude as a witness that God is good.

§

Live in the way of a healthy lifestyle and in the light of God's Spirit.

§

If you win over a person's love, make sure that the person leaves his or her doubts about you behind.

§

What people ask you is more likely to reveal truth about them than what they tell you. Questions put to another can often reveal the inquirer's motivations, intentions, desires, curiosities, doubts, fears, and even more.

§

Many women are attractive, but fewer carry themselves with God's Spirit of attractiveness.

§

Media racism is rampant nowadays. We must adamantly oppose and resist any form of it.

§

Believe in what you want, and work at it or for it, because waiting for success often fails to yield results.

§

If you don't want to catch hell, then don't dance with the devil. If you don't want to go to hell, then don't take the highway to hell.

§

Some people spend much time trying to make themselves look beautiful, when God has already created them to be naturally beautiful.

§

You cannot simply take a white horse and paint it with black strips, expecting to have a zebra. The same principle applies to human beings.

§

If you're happy, then don't crash your own party.

§

God's good work is often rendered through the good deeds of His human servants.

§

Race doesn't matter until it matters in the mind and the behavior of another.

§

There is no greater love of a woman than for the love of her spirit.

§

There are those who constantly talk a line of promises, and there are those who consistently walk a line of good deeds.

§

A national policy or cultural practice of punishment is not always a sign of strength or rightfulness.

§

At times, we all need to know who to love, how to love, and when to leave a love if necessary.

§

It's easier for most people to heap on criticism than to seek understanding.

§

Ask yourself, "Can a person be religious without being spiritual?"

§

If we treat children badly because they act badly or are perceived as bad, then they are *not* likely to learn how to do good things or how to behave in a good way.

§

A universal wrong is a wrong regardless of culture, race, gender, identity, or social status of the person who commits the wrongful act.

§

I remain amazed by what human beings can do. Also, I remain puzzled by why human beings cannot get along harmoniously with each other and with Earth.

§

Music can sooth the body, heal the mind, and lift the human spirit.

§

Instead of praying for a miracle only from outside of you, pray to God to bless you to find the miracle that is the light within you.

§

If you can't trust a person to do the right thing because that person repeatedly fails you, then you have to do the right thing.

§

A gift of meaning through written words does not necessarily come from genius but often from the Spirit of God through an anointed person with the gift to know and share such knowledge.

§

Persons close to you from day to day are sometimes, if not most times, the least likely to know you and to appreciate you.

§

If you experience success with fame, don't allow the size of your britches or the size of your hat to increase.

§

Let us stand up for universal right and against universal wrong, no matter what, where, or by whom.

§

Some people are so focused on celebrating themselves that they are oblivious, unappreciative, and unthankful to those who have significantly helped them along their way.

§

Many people who profess a love of Jesus fail to follow the teachings of Jesus. Many people who profess a love of Jesus, would probably have been among the first to turn their backs on him at the crucifixion.

§

Those self-centered human beings who constantly try to impress others of how intelligent they are should really try to demonstrate constantly how much they can help others.

§

Many people talk about changing their self-destructive lifestyle, but too often they are not willing to take that first step as action.

§

God showed me His way and gave me the will to act. I heard the divine call, and I followed the beacons of light of mission for me.

§

There are youth who would rather be “cool” than academically smart in school. However, they eventually learn that being cool does not necessarily translate to popularity and success in adult life.

§

If life feels lonely and alone at the end or at the top, always remember that you have the presence of the Spirit of God and the protective and guiding spirits of your ancestors.

§

Be forever grateful for what you have and what you've been blessed to have had.

§

Many times, when you are blessed, you are blamed; ergo, such is God's cross to bear.

§

Why, why, why is it that starving people of our world are trying daily to find anything that they can eat in order to survive, while there are those who throw away food from their homes and restaurants? And why is it that some people of our world often have nothing to eat, while others find challenge in deciding what to eat or how not to eat too much in order to manage their body weight?

§

There are some ethnic-minority commentators and news broadcasters on television who try so hard to demonstrate that they are *not* biased in favor of their own ethnic group that they actually end up showing bias against their own ethnic group.

§

There are at least three ways to spirituality, creating for good, serving for good, and sacrificing for good.

§

At times, you must walk to your cadence and dance to your music, even if you are different from the majority or even unique among the group.

§

There are people who have done less, little, or nothing as compared to those whom they are quick to criticize and judge harshly, that is, those worthy human beings who choose the arena of helping many and achieving highly.

§

And one said, "Put down your guard. I don't expect anything of you, and I don't want anything from you, except the presence of your spirit and company."

§

To know about our ancestors is to understand much about ourselves. To know our natural gifts is to hopefully do all we can in our lifetime to develop these and to share them with the world.

§

Some people's head is much bigger than their body, that is, much bigger than their body of work.

§

No human being can certify you when God has already anointed you to do His will.

§

Some people think that they're great. Other people know that God is great because God does great things through them.

§

A test of living is how well we live our life and how well we prepare the next generation of our family to continue our life.

§

Human suffering has no color, gender, age, religious, social-status, or geographic boundaries.

§

Human beings are herd animals. Only when we break away from the herd will we find true peace, freedom, purpose, fulfillment, and a spiritual relationship with an existence beyond ourselves.

