

Resurrection

mystical poems of longing, surrender and joy

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Preface

What is the Resurrection?

It is a returning to Life.

When asked how to enjoy life and how to know what direction to go, the mystic Joseph Campbell often replied simply:

“Follow your bliss.”

At first, that may sound self-indulgent, and at first it may be, but as time passes the little self, the ego, gradually gives way to the eternal Self and the attraction of the impermanent is overshadowed by the transcendent. In that process, the nature of the bliss changes from mere self-indulgence to Self-Realization.

Mahatma Gandhi once told a journalist that the secret of his life could be summarized in just three words from the first verse of the Isa Upanishad:

“Renounce and enjoy!”

Renouncing the world is not an attempt to suppress or escape the world, but rather is a blissful rising above the attraction of the unreal, the unimportant, the impermanent.

Sufi master Inayat Khan wrote:

“The final victory in the battle of life for every soul is when he has risen above the things which once he most valued.”

The victory of rising above the differences and distinctions of this ephemeral world is a rebirth into a new life, in this world but not of this world, the joyful realization of the essence of the Beloved.

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Now is the Time

what is

this longing
that nothing in
this world can satisfy?

a longing
for Life itself,
not for these worldly shadows,
but for the very essence of Life,

a longing
to awaken from this dream
and kiss the lips
of Life,

a longing
to dance and sing
and become lost in the
many faces of the Beloved,

now is the time
to settle the accounts
and begin
life anew

now is the time for Resurrection.

Wholeness

when you are fragmented and separated
the world is fragmented and separated

when you are whole
the world is whole

beyond the
grasp of the senses
there is a Wholeness

in the Wholeness there is a rhythm
coming and going
living and dying
everything has a reason
in this rhythm of
Wholeness

when you are divided
the reasons are veiled
when you are whole
the reasons are apparent

before setting out to
fix the world
take a look at yourself

when you are whole,
the world is whole.

Joseph's Well

if they cast you
 into the deepest darkest well
know that you are in
 good company
the greatest of the prophets and saints
 have been there before you
let it be as a rose garden,
 let it be as a banquet
a joyous celebration
 with the Beloved

That Which has Always Been

The River does not begin
flowing simply because we wish it to be so

rather it is through the asking
that we become aware of
That Which has always been.

Asking

ask for what you really want

asking is a laying down of some of our armor
an opening to what may be
a welcoming of that which we have not been aware
the crumbling of our own walls of separation

ask for what you really want

The Very Best

the very best
is much too good to be
bartered or sold
it can only be given away

Between the Words

oh My children

| am not in the words of the book

 | am not in the words of the song

| am not in the words of the sermon

 | am in the silence between the words

| speak to you

 but you do not hear

| tell you the secrets of the universe

 but you do not hear

between the words

 there is a silence

 meet Me there

Drink it Up

only a moment here

drink it up

and move on

there is no permanence here

this is a place of

coming and going

drink it up

sing

dance

and move on

Every Moment

dear friend this is
the moment
the mystery of the abyss
is awaiting
the raging fire
is calling
the great calamity
is now
the end of your old world
has arrived

surrender
to the scales
of justice

give up the desires
of this world
return to life

let each dawn be a resurrection
let each breath be a resurrection
let each moment be a resurrection

behold the face of the Beloved in every face
behold the face of the Beloved in all that exists
behold the face of the One who enfolds you in every moment

O' Flame

o' flame that will be
o' flame that has been
you are this same flame
 glowing
 burning
 here now
then gone from view
 still glowing
 still burning
the flame that has
 not yet arrived
is made of the same stuff
as the flame that burns now
 the same stuff as
 the flame that was
the coming and the going
 and being
 are all the same
 parts of the whole

o' flame that will be
o' flame that has been
you are this same flame
everywhere and nowhere
 seen and unseen
without a face
 i see your face everywhere
without a form
 i touch your body

unseen you are here
seen you are here
having departed you are still here
still there
unchanged
ever changing
the wheel turns
that which was fades away
the unseen springs into view
these senses cannot hold you
yet i am filled

o' flame that will be
o' flame that has been
you are this same flame

One Breath

beyond the breath
there is Breath

not just this breath
of air
but beyond this
there are unseen worlds
breathing
throbbing
bringing into being
and stripping away all that was

beyond this breath
there is One Breath
which is all that has ever been

Look at the Flowers

seekers
wander along
so many paths
struggling to find the Beloved
becoming lost in
prayers and chants
searching and seeking
dances and ceremonies
struggle and suffering

oh my dear friend
look at the flowers
and tell me
what did they do
to bloom so beautifully?

My Eyes

do you see
My eyes
behind the veil of the beggar on the street?

do you see
My eyes
behind the veil of every face that you meet?

Magnificent

for those
 who are preoccupied
with the
 woes of the little self

this world
 is something to be fixed
something
 in dire need of repair

but listen
 there is another voice
patiently waiting
 to be heard
gently whispering
 ahhhhh this is magnificent!

Celebrate

i asked
what can i do?
and heard the reply:
Enjoy!

i asked
really, what can i do?
and heard the reply:
Dance!

i asked
but, what can i do?
and heard the reply:
Celebrate!

i asked,
really, what is it that i can do?
and heard the reply:
Enjoy the garden that | have made!

The Immensity of Your Love

in a moment of time
when the time is right
the Buddha will awaken
the Light of Muhammad will shine
the Christ will arise
the eternal Self will be unleashed
they are already within your heart
waiting to be set free

day after day
satisfied with dissatisfaction
but one day
in a moment of time
a moment of truth
a day of reckoning
you will discover
the immensity of your love

Pure Heart

the pure heart
is One

the pure eye
sees only purity
the pure tongue
speaks only purity
the pure hand
offers only purity
the pure ear
hears only purity

the pure heart
is One

Womb of the Divine

from the depths of night

the day is born

out of the darkness

the light emerges

out of the human being

the divine arises

all of creation is

the womb of the divine

born into the world

but not of it

born into the world

yet beyond it

Only this Journey

oh my dear friend

if we live a thousand times a thousand lifetimes
still we could not create even an ant
a blade of grass or a leaf

oh my dear friend

we are but sunbeams
shimmering for a moment
across this pond

the delusions of personal grandeur
deserve to die here and now

sing and dance and love in joyful praise
it's time to wave the white flag of surrender
and be an ecstatic witness to the
glorious magnificence of the One

every moment a celebration of the glory
and magnificence of the One

there is no destination, only this journey...

Have You Forgotten Me?

oh My children
what do you long for?
fame?
fortune?
excitement?
accomplishments?

are you so consumed
by your little self
that you have
forgotten Me?

I have never left
your side
My voice is always
with you

your return to Me
is the resurrection

oh My children
what do you long for?
have you
forgotten Me?

Let My Voice Be Heard

let the noise
 be quiet
let peace
 be known
let My voice
 be heard

speak no more
 of yourself
let My voice
 be heard

speak
 My words
breathe
 My breath
let My voice
 be heard.

There Comes a Time

there comes a time
when the accomplishments
of this world
are nothing

a time
when the words
of mankind
are nothing

a time
when neither the pleasures nor the worries
of this world
can hold their grip

a time
when all that was important
in this world
crumbles and falls

a time
when that still, small voice
is heard
above the din of the world

a time
when only
Love exists.

Use Mine

from the stillness
a voice emerges

your words are empty
use Mine

your actions are empty
use Mine

your thoughts are empty
use Mine

your life is empty
use Mine

your breath is empty
use Mine

your love is empty
use Mine

The Prophets Cry

the prophets cry
“listen to the Voice”
yet most are content to only hear
their own chatter

the prophets cry
“follow none but the One”
yet most are more enchanted with the messenger
than the message

the prophets cry
“you are just like me”
yet most go on
building shrines and signposts

the prophets cry
“love one another”
yet most go on
building boundaries and walls

the prophets cry
they cry for us
the ones who have not
listened

Love and Joy

i asked “what is the purpose of this life?”
the voice said “love”

i asked “what can i do?”
the voice said “enjoy”

i asked “really, what can i do to help?”
the voice said “love”

i asked “isn’t there some great thing i should be doing?”
the voice said “enjoy”

i asked “what is the greatest thing that i can do?”
the voice said “love”

Be as the Sky

be as the sky
let the clouds come
let the clouds go

be as the sky
accepting all
giving to all

be as the sky
never changing
always changing

be as the sky
keeping nothing
needing nothing

be as the sky

It's Your Choice

the scales of justice never fail
what do you value?
what's really important?
what seeds are being planted in this moment?

let your desires be for
nothing other than the Beloved

the scales of justice are here now
thoughts and actions are being weighed

do you desire the trinkets of this world
or will you be fountain of the Beloved?

make your choice and stand on the scales

a lump of clay or
a fountain of blessed radiance

it's your choice

The Immaculate Flame

like a wildfire
out of control
let Love
consume everything
leaving no self
leaving no other

and on that day
of reckoning
even the scales of justice
will be consumed by
the immaculate
flame of Love

Tree of Life

oh my child
you are but a leaf
on this tree of life

every leaf
is divine
every leaf
is magnificent

yet the tree
lives on even as
the leaves come
and the leaves go

Beyond Asking

beyond asking
 there is no-asking
a knowing that there is
 nothing to ask for
a knowing that all that could be asked for
 has already been given
and in that moment the asking is replaced
 by gratitude and celebration

Freewill

choices?

two!

joyful harmony with Love

or

painful struggle against Love

choices?

two!

this idea of

freewill has been

greatly exaggerated

by the little self

choices?

two!

yet only Love is victorious!

Sing Every Song

no division

no separation

no struggle

the battle is over

born into

life anew

seeing no evils

finding no faults

feeling all pain

celebrating all joys

crying every tear

singing every song

the blind have no idea of

what one with vision can see

Rend the Veils

Love is
a mighty torrent
and you stand there
offering a tiny bucket

fool

rend the veils
stand naked
before the world
glowing

The Journey

God is not a destination

God is the journey

Do it!

awaken!

don't become unconscious
in words and books
in ceremonies and rituals

awaken!

don't become a collector
of signposts and maps
of pointers and rules

when the door is opened

walk through!
don't just stand there
staring at the open doorway

when the food is cooked

eat!
don't just stand there
staring at the cooking pots

there comes a time

when nothing is meaningful
except surrender to Love

do it!

Journey of Love

the saints and prophets and masters
are made of the same stuff as you and me

the difference is that they had the
courage to die to this world

they had the guts to let go of this
flimsy raft of self

they leaped willfully into
the Flame

they walked deliberately on
the journey of Love

what's stopping you?

Never Stop Loving

as children

we took our first few steps
and fell

then we tried again
and fell

we tried again and again
until finally

we could walk

the falling

was not failure

the falling was simply
part of the journey

and so it is

with this heart

we must never stop loving
no matter how many times we fall

never stop loving

never stop loving

Truth

in the presence of Truth
your opinions do not matter

in the presence of Truth
your rules do not matter

Truth marches on
regardless of opinions

Truth marches on
regardless of man-made rules

Truth alone is victorious

Whose Words

oh my dear friend
whose words come out when you speak?

is it the voice of Love?
is it the voice of Unity?

oh my dear friend
whose words come out when you speak?

Knocking at the Door

oh my friend
the power of Love
is knocking at the door

do you have the courage to answer?

this Love will consume
that which seemed to be you

the slightest glance from
this Love will shatter you

the flame of this Love
will devour you

oh my friend
why do you resist
that One whom you desire?

oh my friend
the power of Love
is knocking at the door

do you have the courage to answer?

Born Anew

habits and customs
books and words
violence and hatred
anger and separation

let them die

the butterfly
no longer needs the cocoon
born anew
soaring on wings of Love

Be a Candle

oh my dear friend
see how you are
pretending that some
grand "me"
is doing these things

then running
hither and yon
in search of
something that is missing
in search of
books and learning and teachers
in search of
your Self

oh my dear friend
see how you are

stop
be still
be a candle
blazing with the One Flame

shhhhh... there's nothing more to say

Awaken

oh My children
awaken

awaken to who
you are

all of this is
Me

all of that is
Me

you are
Me

Perfection

oh foolish one
 imagining that you know
how this life should be

can you cause the flower to bloom
 or the bird to sing?

all things will happen
 in their own time

hear this voice
 open your heart
rend your veils
 and know that all of creation
is unfolding in My perfection

Love Me as I Am

oh dear children
all of this creation is Me

I am that which you call good
and I am that which you call bad

I am that which you call beautiful
and I am that which you call ugly

oh dear children
accept Me as I am

oh dear children
love Me as I am

al-hamdu li llāh

All praise is for God.

lā ilāha illā llāh

There is nothing to worship, nothing to seek, but God.

