

Poetic Lifestyle



30 + 1 Poems by

Tani Lone Tree

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(English version)

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(Versione Italiana)

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To my Family

To my Friends

To St. Joseph's Indian School

To St. Labres Indian School

#1

When in Rome

*We served our master for many years
Before he was named Emperor of Rome
Though times were hard, he was not cruel
And we called his home our home
I worked for him as a fire tender
Until there came a war
He then called together an army
To keep the enemy from our shore
First in line came his generals
a cunning and sly gang
They all vowed to serve him truly
And his praises they all sang
Following close was his cavalry
Overflowing with arrogance
They cared only for their steeds
And never even gave us a glance
The vats legions were next to pass
With helmets made of steel
They were so many in number
That it made our senses reel*

*Supply wagons followed by hundreds
Stuffed with meat and grain
With weapons and equipment
More than enough, it was plain
Finally came perfumed carriages
While we returned to our chores
They called themselves the Silken Women
The vain and pompous whores
We were then quick to close our gates
Before there came in time
The thieves, spies, and cowards
That we called human slime
The troops all soon departed
All of them history bound
Though numbers would soon fall in battle
A few their glory found*

#2

On Foreign Hillside

*Eternally on foreign hillsides bear
Women of glamour would appear
Dressed so nobly in rich gear
And amorous men would then appear
The women cried with many a tear
Oh approach us not, for we fear
To mortals we have no substance here
But the suitors seemed not to hear
and in their disbelief would sneer
They tried in vain to prove their gear
Only to fall in disarray
Until they discovered in wondrous fear
"you have no substance, you are sheer"
The women all would sorrowfully disappear
Saying you were warned not to draw near
We are not of this world, we fear
But of a field very far from here
Where only shadows do appear
Oh mortals with your gallant gear
Put down your sword, forsake your spear*

*For you cannot join us, we must disappear
and leave naught behind we fear
Come daylight we won't be here
That is our curse, our woe, our drear
And finally the couriers did cohere
And move among themselves with mortal fear
Only the shadow do exist here
In these foreign lands not near
So e teh depart and will not again appear
But forever avoid these hills of drear
As one they would remove their gear
Until naught remained but bitter cheer*

#3

Dry and Cold World

Dry and Cold World

This world is cold, this world is dry

and no matter how hard we try

We can only moan and cry

and when we ask the reason why

Silence is our sole reply

But am I worried, no not I

For I have wings and I can fly

Someday I will grasp the sky

#4

We Are Candles

We Are Candles

We are candles, so some say

Burning down by hour and day

Lit by some eternal flame

But we don 't all burn the same

Some burn brightly, and some flicker

Some burn slowly, others quicker

While some of us, with our light

Guide one another through the night

#5

Siren's Revenge

Wind, weather, come together

Tide rise, deluge fall

With the swiftness of the lightning

Let the sea take it all

Send now the fury of the gale

Rise, storm, send your rage

Break upon this forlorn vessel

Imprison it within a watery cage

Bring up the current full and deadly

To smash all in its path

Until naught remains afloat before it

As men now suffer a siren's wrath

Tempest strike in savage fury

When ocean and I become as one

Ship and sail fall before us

For its existence is now done

Swiftly now, swiftly now, sweep and strike

Allow nothing on your surface to remain

Though the mortals cry out in terror

For they'll never see the sun again

#6

Isolated Shoal

*To those who came to this isolated shoal
I hope you read the words I send
If wealth or fame is your goal
I won't ask you your ways to mend
As we travel from pole to pole
During life's journey that we wend
Guard most dearly your immortal soul
On the road that has no end*

#7

Truth walks in mist

*Truth walks in mist
shrouded*

*gray as rain
bright as the sun
the horn dances before me
dance for me
oh horn
let me see
deep life in your eyes
keep the chill wind
ever at my back
walk in the darkness
oh keeling
be the fire
that leads me
in wisdom and peace
show me the way
of honor*

#8

I met some gods in my dreams tonight

*I met some gods in my dreams tonight
They were gentle and lively, with a sense of sprite
We met in a woods, which was fine
and they gave me some gifts, including bottles of wine
There were fiery flowers, their purpose mysterious
"These are for pleasure", they said, "and nothing serious"
But I could tell they were given for a definite goal
and I would be honored if I found them whole
We laughed and partied, had a wonderful time
and then we departed, and I wrote down this rhyme
Now if someone says gods are all harsh and gruff
I'll tell them they don't know gods well enough*

#9

Dancer

I danced in this room for many years

Shared many joys, shed many tears

Experienced hopes, experienced fears

And I know soon the end nears

But there will be no gloom

Only the body stays in the tomb

My soul will find another womb

And I will dance in another room

#10

Spring

*Spring is a vast field of flowers
That we wander among
Spring is our hopes and dreams
In the warm air far-flung
Spring is a fanciful melody
A song yet to be sung
And, above all else
Spring is forever young*

#11

Standing Rock

When I first learned of Standing Rock

My first reaction was of shock
The companies - all the same stock
As the protesters they did mock
It really didn't take me long
To see who was right or wrong
Officials using force against prayer and song
Coming on like King Kong
That's not all I have to say
This isn't an act, not a play
Though I can't be there today
I still will help in any way

#12

This world is cold, this world is dry

This world is cold, this world is dry

And no matter how hard we try

We can only mourn and cry

And when we ask the reason why

Silence is our sole reply

But am i worried? No, not I

For I have wings and I can fly

Someday I will grasp the sky

#13

Wild horses I do not ride

Wild horses I do not ride
I am too much like them inside
I like to roam the countryside
Caring only about my stride
Using my senses as my guide
To survive on the land so wide
and if I'm ever tamed and tied
Then in hell will I reside

#14

Before I Leave

Before I Leave

Before I forever leave this field

What secrets now concealed

Will finally be revealed

with the life that I now yield

When I forever leave this field

Before I forever leave the field

This question I must ask of me

As my soul is set free

Will I touch eternity

When I forever leave this field

Before I forever leave this field

I ask of all the friends I had

To remember the good times we had

And overlook the bad

When I forever leave this field

Before I forever leave this field

I ask of those who went before

Who meet me on that foreign shore

If I'll be there forevermore

When I forever leave this field

Before I forever leave this field

I must ask the ruling one

Are all my lives now done

Or is another yet begun

When I forever leave this field

#15

I went for a walk today

Where I saw a small array
Of children who did laugh and play
I said to myself "hooray"
I went for a ride today
I didn't go that far away
Only to a nearby bay
To admire the scenery where it lay
I went for a flight today
I stayed in this country, but that's okay
To the people I did say
I hope I can return some day
I went for a cruise today
To escape the skies of gray
It was worth the price I had to pay
I even eyed the salty spray
I didn't make the final trip today
To that place so far away
Is it good or ? I cannot say

I can only hope and pray

#16

We each follow our special light

We each follow our special light
Of our own particular choosing
Though we must struggle to keep it right
Even if we're the only ones using
Though obscured by shadow, covered by night
Until the path becomes confusing
Or distractions also make us take flight
Some serious and others amusing
And to others our goals may seem trite
It's still one we are not refusing
So once you grasp it, hold it most tight
Because it's well worth the effort you're using

#17

Rivers of Memory

The rivers of memory run deep and wide
from countless thousands of years
with canyons long and currents swift
containing both hopes and fears
Things long forgotten, the truth now obscured
Covered by the silt of lies
until fierce undercurrents expose the facts
before our amazed eyes
What truly happened then
Sometimes we cannot say
But questions remain about events
in some since-past day
Light suddenly cast on shadows offers up
the ability to understand if we dare
bringing forth the eternal question
Have some of us actually been there?

#18

January

January
is the first month
and it seems
like the worst month
Comes the ice
far and wide
All you can do
is slip and slide
and the cold
is so chilling
You stay inside
if you are willing
But the one thing
that's so scary
Is that what comes next
is February

#19

The music of life

Every phase of life
has it' s special song
For one time it is so right
But for others it may be wrong
When we feel weak
It's what makes us strong
And this is what always
helps us move along

#20

On the wind

On the wind she dances

like an angel given birth

A being of light and compassion

of understanding mixed with mirth

Reaching out to find herself

For all her soul is worth

In the skies she feels at home

While she spurns the earth

#21

Rising Spirit

**My spirit rises like the sun
Driving away the shadows
Bringing warmth to cold places
It leads and instructs me
And shines brightest when I am lost
It is my strength, my hope, my joy
Touching me in ways nothing else can
It is the forever part of me
Free of falseness, anger, and greed
With a deep beauty everlasting
That alone gives my life meaning**

#22

Gift of Forever

**We are naught but sticks and stones
Blood and muscle, skin and bones
Tis our spirit alone which drives
And, ultimately, which survives
Though we move in time and space
And where many a different face
Souls are immortal, they cannot die
They find their place in the eternal sky
Bodies wither, shrivel, and fall
But hidden deep within it all
The spark that matters come what may
Goes on it's everlasting way
Our lives are just games we play
Until we reach the forever some glorious day**

#23

If there's anything in life we learn

If there's anything in life we learn

It's that we get exactly what we earn

Should some wish for money to burn

They will receive it in their turn

If some for fame do yearn

That is only the fates concern

But if such things we only spurn

Then they to nothingness soon return

#24

Life can be a funny thing

**Life can be a funny thing
Some take root, some take wing
Reaching up to heights unknown
On a quest to find their own
Huts or castles, who can say
As we go along the way
To touch the stars is not my goal
I seek the right place for my soul**

#25

We each follow our special light

**We each follow our special light
of our own particular choosing
Though we must struggle to keep it right
even if we're the only one using
Though obscured by shadow, covered by night
until our path becomes confusing
Or distractions also make us take fright
Some serious and some amusing
and to others our goal may seem trite
It's still one we are not refusing
So once you grasp it, hold it most tight
because it's well worth the effort you're using**

#26

As I journey the trail of stars

**As I journey the trail of stars
I can tell my goal I'm near
Travelling across the mystic sky
Spurning much that we hold dear
A world of beauty eternal I seek
Of peace and joy forever
To a place immortal in every way
That is my sole endeavor
And should I find it some sweet day
I'll travel then no more
But rest my spirit in that place
As I depart this mortal shore**

#27

Summer Melody

**Summer Melody
Summer is a lover's heart
And we treasure every part
We wish it could forever stay
And regret the passing of each day**

**Though we enjoy it a lot
It seems better when it's hot
So here it is: summer praise
The glory of our yearly days
If I followed you to heaven
Would you be waiting there for me
To end the pain and sorrow
And set my spirit free?
Or would you claim we never met
And work to make me fall
From above the very skies
To that fierce and terrible hall?
Guess I'll never know the answer
Or whether to rejoice or fear
Please don't object, I only expect
To be told "There's no place for you here"**

#28

IF

IF
If I followed you to heaven
Would you be waiting there for me
To end the pain and sorrow
And set my spirit free?
Or would you claim me never met
And work to see me fall
From above the very skies
To that fierce and terrible hall?
Guess I'll never know the answer
Or whether to rejoice or fear
Please don't object, I only expect
To be told "There's no place for you here"

#29

Gabrielle's Lament

I want you to know I still love you so

I am sorry that we are apart

My need is so much, hear your voice, feel your touch

To erase the ache in my heart

But now you are gone, and in each cold dawn

Despite all the combat and strife

There must be a way, I search every day

To bring you back into my life

With you beside me, how grand it would be

We needn't be this far apart

I want you to know I still love you so

Please erase the ache in my heart

#30

Star of Dawn

**White wings spread wide against the starry night
Look closely now, for a legend takes flight
Soaring past Mars, outward from Saturn
On an unerring ever constant flight pattern
A solo journey to galaxies beyond sight
A young woman goes seeking her birthright
Beautiful in her passing, black hair streaming
Copper-hued skin in the starlight a-gleaming
a myth long in making, she travels alone
To a distant world and a fate yet unknown
And perhaps one day when she returns from afar
Great honor will be given her, the Dawn star**

#30+1

RISING SPIRIT

(POEM FOR XMAS)

RISING SPIRIT

MY SPIRIT RISES LIKE THE SUN

DRIVING AWAY THE SHADOWS

BRINGING WARMTH TO COLD PLACES

GUIDING ME ON MY ETERNAL JOURNEY

IT LEADS AND INSTRUCTS ME

AND SHINES BRIGHTEST WHEN I AM LOST

IT IS MY STRENGTH, MY HOPE, MY JOY

TOUCHING ME IN WAYS NOTHING ELSE CAN

IT IS THE FOREVER PART OF ME

FREE OF FALSENESS, ANGER, AND GREED

WITH A DEEP BEAUTY EVERLASTING

THAT ALONE GIVES MY LIFE MEANING

Bibliography



Tani Lone Tree is the artistic name used by an empowered creative women.

She is a Native American, a Dakota, and writes novels and poems.

You can find some of her poems inside the international cultural hub [AppealPower](#)

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