WORD BY WORD

A BOOK OF POEMS

JUNIOR LITERARY ASSOCIATION OF TRINITY COLLEGE
The Big Match

The all mighty lions and eagles
Fighting at their best
To win for their schools
But it is a test

Students and lovers
Of the game itself
Roar at Asgiriya
To cheer their friends

Innings after innings
Day after day
The morning or the evening
Excitement never ends

The match comes to an end
The boys’ talent is ultimate
It doesn’t matter who wins
Because it’s the gentleman’s game

-A Tribute to a Soldier

Father, Father please come home
Please don’t go after these vicious ghosts
I know you love and care for us
So please stay, please if you love us

You know what happened to the rest of them
Fathers, sons, uncles, nephews and cousins
They all fought and died like heroes on the battle field
But I don’t want you to fall like a raindrop on the battle field

The wind carries both death and glory
For you only glory
You’re still a hero to us
The best in the world

Father drop that gun
Like a bee on a flower who’s fed up
Wait father wait
Don’t leave me incomplete

-Thesath Keppetiagama

-Chanura Ratnayake
Space

Drifting through outer space,
Maybe other planets,
Beyond our wildest dreams,
Life just like us,
But different.
We think that we’re alone,
True or false it’s for you to choose.
Living beings, beams or even beans,
Are wandering in their homes,
Thriving in their wildest dreams,
In their own homes.
While they’re thriving in their private home space,
What are we doing to our home?
Earth is feeding us nutrition,
But we are feeding her poison.
Aliens, unknown to space
Space is unknown to aliens
But they go…
Together
As so,
Nature’s species,
Not only here on Earth,
Everyone is different,
But they go together.

The Little Things

A pebble in your shoe is innocent,
Till it’s a mile that you’ve walked,
Even the wise are blind folded,
When the little snags grow.

Unseen they go, to change the most
A little notice overlooked,
The judge’s gavel, the killer’s baton,
The little things, they matter.

-Akalanka Athukorala
The Ones of Time

He found many things in his lifeline,
A great inventor of his time,
He did some good like helping a set,
And still he did bad, by destroying the rest,
This mistake he made was not an intention.

But an accident for a new invention,
And now he is one with time,
He is the great Albert Einstein.
Although we did not want him to end,
His time became smaller on end,
The three fates had to snip his line.

And that was the day we all cry,
His memory was still with us,
We use his research for more,
And now it is the end of this man
Now on to the one who lost a hand

This famous man whom we all knew,
Had died very recently many know,
His fate was inevitable but as it’s said
To how he cheated death.
Yes, It’s Stephen Hawking who I said,
Ran away from his supposed death bed,
But now he returned and all is said
Or is it? Was written, ‘All is said’?

I’m afraid I was going to bed,
But that’s how Mr. Hawking’s life is to be said
When he was twenty one
He fell under a disease, a dreadful one
He was said that he could live
Only up to twenty three
But he lived more than we expected.

He lived up to be seventy two,
Believe it or not,
How he got there and why we did not,
Still is the mystery doctors are puzzled with.

He suffered a lot, that’s to be sad,
His head got stuck on his shoulder,
And he couldn’t walk or talk,
But because of technology,
He lived until today.

And to close this book,
And open anew,
Here is the lifeline of someone,
Everyone knew,
He fought for freedom,
And the rights of black Americans,
This man is known for peace,
He is Martin Luther King Jr.
Winning the votes of people is one thing,
But winning the Nobel Peace Prize is another,
He gave blacks rights,
And equaled the whites,
The man of peace,
The white dove’s son,
I’ve ended his tale,
And mine too is done.

-Kavindu Athukorala

The Nature that Beautifies the World with
Greatness
Everyone knows it and loves it
But some destroy it love
It helps from your birth to death
And goes with you where ever you go
Nothing can stop it to be away from you
Cause it won’t be second to anyone
It brings you joy when you love it
But if we hurt its feeling it
Won’t be second to hell
It brings prosperity to all people and
It won’t stop beautifying the world with greatness

-Harindu Senanayake

Freedom
The white pigeons are flying
Through the sky lining
But a guns man is shooting
Blood is flowing
Now freedom is loosing
Gold lines are fading
People are fighting
Darkness is rising
Please make the darkness fall again
To make the freedom light come again
Anger is a disaster
Find the path for freedom like a master

-Thevidu Yatawara
**In the face of Death**

I was walking in the rain
I knew something was in pain
But when I went to check it
The damage was checked out

I went to the doc to save it
But the doc said it’ll die in a bit
It was still struggling
And it was still starving

It was seeing the last light
It was struggling to fight
It was doing this with all its might
And for it I knew it was Good Night

First I felt sorry
Then I started to worry
It had a good life
But it was stabbed with a knife

The Wonders of Nature

The winds that sing their silent songs
In all their blissful ways
The lark that strikes with mirth and laugh
When silence find its ways

Oh, how but wonderful it is
To live in nature’s bliss
The leaves, the trees, the fleas, the bees
Would join for one big kiss

The water flowing in the stream
So gently and fragile
The fire burning in my heart
May rest in you so smile

Oh loving mother with thy care
Will we survive this threat
May this great wonder of thy love
Be forsaken with regret

-Thejaka Herath

-Lolonyo Rahula
The Door

Door into a home
Door into the world
After birth
My first step into the world
Was through this door

In the morning it lets wind in
In the night it keeps bandits far
During life it lets opportunities come in
When trouble comes in it closes and keeps them far

This rectangular object
May not look like much
But my home knows its value
Like a bat to a ball
The door completes my home

So thank you humble door
For all the protection
For all the care
For all the love
During my birth,
To my demise.

-Herwin Wavita

Humanity

A beautiful day dawning
Always comes without warning
What good is peace and love,
When it’s exclusive

Earth has time of its own
Even though humans have none
So don’t think twice
We live in cruel times

Every day has its own moment
But always with it comes hardness
So with content in your heart
Go live the life it’s meant to be.

-Anushan Jayasinghe
**The Moon**

Every time that you come
You light up the sky
But when you don’t show up
The night sky will cry

Sometimes you light up the sky so much
You make me wonder whether it’s daylight
Though you’re so far from the Earth
You are like a blue giant in the sky.

All the stars in the sky
Would be no match for you
You being in the sky
Makes me love the night sky

-Kevin Damunupola

**A Place Called Home**

The cool wind and breeze
The branch and the trees
The flowers floating on
The waters so deep

The cattle and farm
The birds of the sky
The far cottage on
The mountains so high

The sweet smell of meat
The songs and the beats
The laughing and smiling
The moon and the stars

The feasting is over
We all bid adieu
The night that is silent
My home, I love you

-Kevin Tennakoon
Deeds
Do you ever hear the tree
Whisper to your ear
Do you ever feel the wind
Dancing really near
Do you ever see the rain
Like a big tear
That sheds whenever
You do a really bad deed
Maybe you think I’m kinda weird
But you should know the truth
That everything you do in the life
Has a consequence too

-Sachika Boyagoda

My Brother
I have a brother,
Who is quite a bother
He’s short in size
And greedy for rise
I call him ugly
Cause he looks quite like Fregly
He has a big pimple
On his left dimple
His cunning look
And his dangerous smile
Makes people shake
Then they run a mile
That’s how I describe my brother
To you and others
Please don’t run away
For he’ll come that way

-Akindu Edirisinghe
The Beauty of Rugby

The way we start a match,
Makes the decision at the end,
Makes the opponent respect,
Else make him respect.

The skill you use to play,
Makes the team run through the glory,
The discipline that you use,
Makes a huge victory.

The times that you enjoy the game,
Makes a party at the end,
The way you love the game,
The game will love you.

Till the whistle blows,
Do not stop the battle,
At the last whistle that blows,
Will make the opponent respect.

-Jeywin Samarakoon

Wonder

On the edge stood a man
On the verge of humanity
On the hedge stood a man
On the tire of harvest

A planet small, is ours
A speck of dust it may be
A rhythm of life prevails within
A melody not to be understood

The little boy asks his father,
‘Where do we come from?’
The father shows him the sky and says,
‘From the mighty heavens above’

Traffic lights blinked on the London sub
A train stopped at Casablanca
As a ship crossed the Panama
I sat down and wondered why

-P. Ratnayake
**The Night**

When the sun sinks in the west,
The stars rise from the east,
When all are asleep,
The stars are serene.

When the moon shines happily,
The owls hoot merrily,
When the crickets chirp loudly,
The trees listen humbly.

When the birds sleep deeply,
The bats fly shallowly,
When the wolf bane blooms,
Wolves howl at the moon.

-M. R. M. Raihan

**The Night Sky**

When the sun is setting down,
The moon slowly appears.
Then the creatures who hunt at night,
They slowly come out at night.

The people in there working places,
Starts to go to their homes.
They can see the sky with,
Lots and lots of stars.

You can hear the sounds of owls,
And bats and other creatures.
Some people stay outdoors,
And enjoy the cold breeze.

-Sheran Marasinghe
**Words**

Powerful not delicate,
Combines or divides,
Stressful or peaceful,
Words can express.

-Shalem Vishvabaratha

**Wishing Forest**

Once I came upon a wishing well,
I wished for freedom but nothing happened,
So I left behind and said goodbye.

I came upon a wishing tree,
I wished to get out of here, but I didn’t flee,
But then I got angry and ran away.

I ran and ran until I left the forest,
Then I saw freedom in the far,
Then I knew my wish came true.

-Thusath Dissanayake

**Life**

Often depicted picturesque,
Life I wonder, is it less?
Full of hardships, death and strife,
What would make a pleasant life?

Is it glory, money and all the fame?
Or is politics and power for us to claim?
Probably, it’s to live with honor and valor,
Maybe it’s to embrace all people of colors,

But don’t forget, whatever it is,
It’s up to you to fulfill it with bliss.
So fly with your wings and don’t wait anymore.
Or else, you might as well fall to the floor.

-M. Zaffrullah
**I still rise**

We humans all rise from a healthy fetus,
To a grown man or a woman,
But the question is,
“What makes us rise?”

I always fall down,
But I will stand on my feet again.
I may have failures in my life,
But I shall rise from them.
I can be disappointed, underappreciated,
But I still rise.

These factors are what make us rise,
Without these factors we wouldn’t know real life.

I still rise,
We still rise,
And we always will rise,
And never stop,
We still rise.

-W. S. K. Siriwardana

**The Sun**

Rises in the morning,
Dawns in the eve,
Over the mountain tops,
And into the deep sea.

Wakes every human,
With his powerful light,
Everyone is sleeping,
When it is night.

Comes in the morning,
Without even talking,
Goes in the night,
With no one knowing.

Even though he is hot,
He brings us happiness,
Even though he won’t talk,
He makes us live.

Millions and millions bigger,
Than the Earth,
Millions and millions brighter,
Than our little Moon.
Makes our plant’s happy,  
And the animals too,  
Sun, is what we call him,  
Oh, it is true.

-Mithum Munasinghe

**The Night**

When the sun goes down the mountains,  
And the shining moon comes up,  
The bright and twinkling stars will grow,  
The dark night’s falling up.

The owls hoot and the bats fly,  
The firefly hums with its light glowing high,  
The wolves will sing their mourning howl,  
At night the woods magic, is on the roll.

The trees aren’t alone with their solemn shadows,  
Wild flowers sleep in the silvery shadows,  
The rivers and streams are flowing so gently,  
It’s the beauty of the night, carried by the wind blowing calmly.

Angels are murmuring lovely stories,  
Nightingales sing sweetly bringing forgotten memories,  
When the whole world is dark and silent,  
The night will show its magical movements.

-Ryan Weerasekera

Night

In the night  
When the sun has set  
And the bright moon  
Shines in the sky

In the night  
When everyone’s asleep  
The bats fly  
And the owls hoot in the trees

In the night  
When the rain drops drizzle  
Gently down the roof  
With the cool breeze blowing around.

-Nikhil Mohottala
**Roots of a Stump**

The roots will help the tree seek out
Seek out to see the world
The world will first seek out the tree
And later cut it down

The roots will be left alone
Alone in the darkness of the world
And the roots will never again seek the world
The eyes of the world won’t turn to the roots

The stump will lay there forgotten
The roots never watching the stump
The roots will cry for the stump and tree
For a world that never hears

Better the roots gone forever
And join the surrounding soil
The roots till they fade away
Shall sing of the past traits and leaps

- Yuki Ranathilaka

**The True Heroes**

We help the poor with all our might,
To feel the pain they feel at night,
They have nothing but death in mind,
To give away all that they have and find.

With no greed or creed in us,
We live together with all our siblings,
If you can’t do that without a fuss,
My dear friends, pull up your socks.

- Abidh Jameel
**World War II**

Don’t fall back gentlemen, we shall go on till the end
None of you will die, I’m sure of that
If someone really dies, they shall be sent to heaven
You’ve done so much to this country, gentlemen
And you shall be rewarded in heaven
We shall not be under Hitler
For we need our own freedom.

-Dhanujya Weerasekera

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**My best friend**

There are friends that you may know
Everybody knows them so
Side by side they stick together
But who I know well is only me
Without me there’s nobody, so my friend is me
Lots of people always think this is odd, who shall it be?
Day by day is passing on, my friend and I know well
Someday I know we will be, together forever more

-Hansana Jayasundara

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**Sunshine**

If I was sunshine I would light the dark
Warm up the cold sea and brighten the dark
Perhaps I’ll make the flowers bloom
And make the day bright and shiny
I’ll show the people that I’m useful
And give the solar power they need.

-Matheesha

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**Clocks**

Tick-tock tick-tock, on goes the clock
Through the day and night non-stop
Just hanging around on a wall or a table
Tick-tock tick-tock there it goes again
When you want to know the time
You’ll always need a clock or a watch
Tick-tock tick-tock on goes the clock

-Lesandu Wijesundara
A fine day

The sun is shining, the birds are chirping,
The wind is blowing the trees are waving,
I knew that is was a fine day,
No wonder no one’s coming out to play,
The sky was blue no sign of rain I went outside and took
my bike,
I rode along the lane but no one’s there,
When I went to my friend’s house he was still fast asleep,
I woke him up and then we played on a very fine day.

Shaluka Herath

The journey to the play ground

One sunny day, I was just on my way
To the land where I play, with my best friends all day
I was just walking by the street, and I suddenly see a
 treat
Just hanging from up there, and I thought I’ll leave it
 right there
And next I walked down with the playground at my
 sight
But I just could not go in because it was under repair
Then I went back to the street,
And I thought that my heart just stopped beating
And tears started to drip, because my journey is as
good as dust

-Sanchitha Wickrama

Flowers and trees

Flowers and trees their best friends are bumblebees
Flowers have powers
And some trees are as tall as tall as towers
Butterflies and bees roam around looking for one of
these.

-Omiru Jayaweera
Doing as you please...
Doing as you please...
Walking in the meadows...
Running on the beach...
Swimming in the ponds...

Doing as you please...
Walking in the forests...
Catching little minnows...
In the little river...

Doing as you please...
Climbing on the trees...
Looking for the breeze...
Feeling the lovely breeze...

Doing as you please...
Makes a better lad...
But don’t overdo it...
Keep it simple always...

-P.C.T. Thalgahawatte

How the night changes

The night changes from dusk to dawn
With many beauties it hides
The stars shine as bulbs floating
With the glamorous moon

The moon travels far away
Like a white balloon
Floating, passing through the stars
With its light as a night light
Which gives the world light

The stars look beautiful
While lighting all the night
Little children watching
As the bright stars make them go to sleep

It changes like a flash to us
But it stays on for hours
The bright, sun starts to rise
Making the sky yellow
And the moon then goes down
To another place it goes

- Thevan Ratnatilake
As free as a bird

Birds can go flying
They can start singing
Birds have the freedom
To do anything

Birds perch on tree tops
Fly overhead
Birds have the freedom
To do anything

They fly through the skies
Singing sweet songs
Birds have the freedom
To do anything

Birds are elegant
And also a symbol
Because freedom is what
Binds you and me

Walking in the valleys
Hiking on the mountains
Sitting by a river
Is what freedom can be

-Rumal Basnayake

Rain

Rain was pouring
Everything was wet
People were talking
Umbrellas above their head

Rain was splattering
Against the window
People were hurrying
To get indoors

My mother was worried
The whole house was shaking
When she looked out of the window
Water was leaking

As for me
I was in bed
Tucked in bed
From my feet to my head

-Anonymous