

## Texts and Translations

### One with the Wind

David O & Larissa FastHorse

Inside this body,  
no one here but me.  
No one in here but me.  
Me.

Misnala.

Alone, I fight the wind.  
Alone I fight the wind.

Though my body aches,  
and my mind is weary,  
and my heart breaks,  
Alone, I fight my wind.

My mother, my daughter, my sisters...

Tiwahe.

We build the wall to shield you.  
We build the wall to shield you.  
We build the wall so you can fight the wind.

In the circle, in the circle, in the circle,  
we stand against the wind.

Tioshpaye.  
Tioshpaye.  
Tioshpaye.

My daughters, my sisters...  
We walk together,  
we work together.  
We help each other,  
We hold each other.

Let the wind cool you,  
let the wind soothe you,

let the wind move you.

Do not fear the wind.

Do not fear the wind.

Tioshpaye.

Together we face the wind.

All mothers, all daughters, all sisters,

Oyate.

We face the North for fortitude,

we face the East for wisdom,

we face the South for a generous spirit,

we face the West for courage.

From the four corners of the Earth,

the wind blows over us all.

From the four corners of the Earth,

the wind blows over us all.

Together we rise,

together we fly,

together, we sail on the wind.

The one breath of the Earth.

The one breath blows through us.

The one breath inside of us.

We are one with the wind.

One with the wind.

We are one with the wind.

One with the wind.

Hoka Hey!

## **The Girl With The Numbers**

**Marie-Claire Saindon**

Can a Black student

take part

as a scholar, a classmate

can “separate but equal”

finally unite?

Why not?

I am no better than anyone,  
but no one is better than me.

Can a woman  
pioneer  
as an expert, a master  
can a “computer in skirts”  
change the script?  
Why not?

I am no better than anyone,  
but no one is better than me.

Can a Black woman  
challenge  
as a colleague, an equal c  
an the “girl with the numbers” balance the question and reach for the moon?  
Why not?

I am no better than anyone,  
but no one is better than me.

## **I want to die while you love me**

**Rosephanye Powell**

I want to die while you love me  
While yet you hold me fair,  
While laughter lies upon my lips  
And lights are in my hair.

I want to die while you love me,  
And bear to that still bed,  
Your kisses turbulent, unspent  
To warm me when I'm dead.

I want to die while you love me  
Oh, who would care to live  
Till love has nothing more to ask  
And nothing more to give?

I want to die while you love me

And never, never see  
The glory of this perfect day  
Grow dim or cease to be!

## **Searching for Dark Matter**

**Jocelyn Hagen**

For this we go out dark nights, searching  
For the dimmest stars,  
For signs of unseen things:  
To weigh us down.  
To stop the universe  
From rushing on  
Into its own beyond on and on  
Till it exhausts itself and lies down cold,  
Its last star going out.  
Whatever they turn out to be,  
Let there be swarms of them,  
Enough for immortality,  
Always a star where we can warm ourselves.  
Let there be enough to bring it back  
From its own edges,  
To bring us all so close we ignite  
The bright spark of resurrection.

Bright spark.  
Always a bright spark.

## **Canto' E Libertad**

**Miriam Suzzette Ortiz & Diana Saez**

Come, sing with me this Yuba song! (La la la)  
Come, sing following the Yuba rhythm, sing with me for freedom!  
Today, I invite you to reflect (on freedom) while I sing this Yuba.  
And if you want to change the world, bring freedom into your life.  
Let's give each person their space,  
To fight for equality.  
Make the drums sound, for freedom.  
Let this song travel, for freedom.  
Let's sing all together, for freedom.  
Let the children sing, for freedom.

No more prejudices, for freedom.  
Stop the violence, for freedom.  
Come, sing following the Yuba rhythm, for freedom!

## **Measure Me, Sky!**

**Elaine Hagenberg**

Measure me, sky!  
Tell me I reach by a song  
Nearer the stars;  
I have been little so long.

Horizon, reach out!  
Catch at my hands,  
stretch me taut,  
Rim of the world:  
Widen my eyes by a thought.

Sky, be my depth,  
Wind, be my width  
and my height,  
World, my heart's span;  
Loveliness, wings for my flight.

## **O viridissima virga**

**Hildegard von Bingen**

Hail! O greenest branch  
that went forth in the windy gusts  
of the saints' discernment.

When the time came  
for you to blossom on your branches,  
"Hail! Hail!" was said to you,  
because the heat of the sun produced sweat  
like the fragrance of balsam on you.

For in you  
a beautiful flower bloomed,  
which gave scent  
to all the spices which were dry.

And they all appeared  
in full freshness.

Whence the heavens poured dew over the grass  
and the whole earth was made happy  
since its womb produced grain  
and since the birds of the sky  
had nests on it.

From there food for humans was made,  
and the great joy of banqueters.  
Whence, o sweet Virgin,  
no joy is lacking in you.

All these things Eve scorned.

But now let there be praise to the Most High.

## **The Tree of Peace**

**Gwyneth Walker**

O my sister and my brother,  
all who walk upon this earth,  
fold to your hearts each other;  
Where mercy dwells, the peace of the Lord is there.  
To live rightly is to love on another,  
Each kindness a gift, each deed a prayer.

O my sister and my brother,  
fold to your hearts each other;  
Listen, listen to one another

Walk with reverence in the steps of those who have gone before,  
where forgiveness and wisdom have stood.  
So shall the wide earth become our temple,  
Each loving life a psalm of gratitude.

Then shall all shackles fall.  
The violence of war over the earth shall cease  
Love shall tread out the fire of anger,  
And in its ashes plant the tree of peace!

## Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

J Rosamond Johnson; arr. Zanaida Robles

Lift every voice and sing  
Till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the  
dark past has taught us,  
Sing a song full of the hope that the  
present has brought us,  
Facing the rising sun of our new day  
Begun let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat,  
Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our parents sighed?

We have come over a way  
That with tears have been watered,  
We have come, treading our path  
Through the blood of the slaughtered.  
We have come over a way  
That with tears have been watered,  
We have come, treading our path  
Through the blood of the slaughtered.

Out from the gloomy past,  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on our way.  
Thou who has by Thy might  
Led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places,

Our God, where we met Thee,  
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine  
Of the world, we forget Thee;  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,  
May we forever stand.  
True to our God,  
True to our God  
True to our native land.  
Lift ev'ry voice and sing!

## **We Remember Them**

**Susan LaBarr**

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer;  
At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring;  
At the rising sun and at its going down;  
We remember them,  
We remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter;  
At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn;  
At the start of the year and when it ends;  
We remember them,  
we remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live;  
As long as we live, they are a part of us.  
They will live,  
as long as we live,  
we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength;  
When we are lost and sick at heart;  
When we have joy we crave to share;  
We remember them, we remember them.

A long as we live, they too will live,  
as long as we live, they are a part of us.  
They will live,  
as long as we live,  
we remember them.



When we are wewary, when we are lost,  
In chill of winter, they are part of us.  
In warmth of summer, in blue skies,  
when we have joy,  
we remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live,  
they will live.  
As long as we live, they are part of us,  
the will live.  
As long as we live, we remember them,  
As long as we live,  
we remember them.

## **Warrior Song** **The Wyrd Sisters**

I was a shy and lonely girl  
With the heavens in my eyes  
And as I walked along the lane  
I heard the echoes of her cries

I cannot fight  
I cannot a warrior be  
It's not my nature nor my teaching  
It is the womanhood in me

I was a lost and angry youth  
There were no tears in my eyes  
I saw no justice in my world  
Only the echoes of her cries

I cannot fight  
I cannot a warrior be  
It's not my nature nor my teaching  
It is the womanhood in me

I am an older woman now  
And I will heed my own cries  
And I will a fierce warrior be  
'til not another woman dies

I can and will fight  
I can and will a warrior be  
It is my nature and my duty  
It is the womanhood in me.

## **When I Become an Old Woman**

**Sherry Blevins**

When I become an old woman,  
when I become an old woman,  
I'll be magnetic.  
It's genetic.  
When I become an old woman,  
an old woman,  
I'll be vivacious,  
Extra loquacious.  
I'll lose my filter,  
and say exactly what I'm thinking.  
I'll learn to tango,  
I will dance like nobody's watching.  
I'll never worry when people pass judgment,  
Poor saps don't know what they're missing!  
I'll give up plucking,  
embrace my inner Yeti.  
I will wear stretchy pants  
and never bother with zippers or button flies  
(Who has time for buttons?)  
I'll toss my bras away!  
Say goodbye to my underwire prison!

When I become an old woman,  
when I become an old woman,  
my purse could hold the kitchen sink (the whole sink!)  
It will be hot pink!

When I become an old woman,  
when I become an old woman.  
I will be brassy,  
and oh, so sassy!  
When I become an old woman,  
I will dance the tango!  
La, dee, da, dee, la, dee, da!

## **When I Rise Up**

**Zachary J. Moore**

When I rise up, above the air  
and I look down on the things that fetter me.  
I beat my wings upon the air, or tranquil lie  
oh surge after surge of potent strength,  
like incense comes back to me, when I rise.

Your world is as big as you make it  
I know, for I used to abide  
in the narrowest nest in a corner  
My wings pressing close to my side  
But I sighted a distant horizon  
Where the skyline encircled the sea  
And I throbbed with a burning desire  
To travel this immensity.

When I rise up, above the air  
and I look down on the things that fetter me.  
I beat my wings upon the air, or tranquil lie  
oh when I Rise up, when I Rise, when I rise.

I battered the cordons around me  
And cradled my wings on the breeze  
Then soared to the utmost reaches  
with rapture with pow'r with ease

Surge after surge of potent strength,  
like incense comes back to me, when I rise.

When I rise up, above the air  
and I look down on the things that fetter me.  
I beat my wings upon the air, or tranquil lie  
Oh when I rise up, when I rise, when I rise.  
When I rise, when I rise!