

## **Letter to the Newspaper**

I am responding to what you had to say  
In your letter to the newspaper yesterday  
You seemed very angry about what you could see  
Happening in the world around you and me

I understand that things are not the same  
And it's easy to want to have someone to blame  
When familiar things from a youthful day  
Seem to all be slipping away

You remember those long summer days and nights  
When the sun always shone so clear and bright  
You ran along the beach and in winter played in the snow  
Just where did all those days of hope go?

So when you see a mosque's minaret reaching to the sky  
Or another news item about Gay Rights  
It all seems a long way from when the sun always shone  
Just where has all that precious time gone?

If only you could turn back the hands of time  
Back to when you saw the world in your prime  
If only it really was 1953  
But you know that can really never be

Where once you built sandcastles or played in the park  
Now you see new faces, different and dark  
Women with veils hiding their faces  
Watched by men holding hands in public places

Whereas once everything seemed so crystal clear  
All is now shrouded in darkness and fear  
When confusion stalks streets and shopping malls  
It can be so tempting to want to build-up walls

But what you see now is more real and true  
Than some past that never really happened to you  
Now the world seems like a messy kaleidoscope  
But we can all build bridges of love and hope

You may not think we are all sisters and brothers  
But we can all still look for the good in others  
Like a rare diamond determined to shine  
In the darkest corner of the deepest coalmine

So when you see people practicing what they believe  
Or two people in love, who are not Adam and Eve  
Remember they are just as human as you  
They hope and they fear and they feel hurt too

For hateful words can cause such deep damage  
As not everyone can be made in your image  
If you can see the beauty in the red sunrise  
Can you not see it in someone else's eyes?

When happiness can seem just out of reach  
Take a walk along some lonely distant beach  
See the shiny pebbles glistening in the sun  
All different but all beautiful, everyone.

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