

## Letter To the Paper

I am responding to what you had to say  
In your letter to the paper 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 find someone to blame  
When familiar things from a youthful day  
All seem to be slipping away

You remember those balmy days and nights  
When the sun always shone so warm and bright  
Running on the beach, in winter playing in the snow  
Just where did all those days of hope go?

So when you see another minaret reaching to the skies  
Or another news item about gay rights  
It can all seem far from when the sun always shone  
Just where has all that precious time gone?

If only you could turn back the hands of time  
To when you saw the world in your prime  
If only it really could be 1953  
Then perhaps you would feel more happy

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

Where 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 build up walls

But what you see now is more real and true  
Than some imaginary past that never happened to you  
Now life can seem like a messy kaleidoscope  
But all those different colours can still spell out hope

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

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

For while hateful words can cause such damage  
Not everyone can be made in your image  
If you can see the beauty in a perfect sunrise  
Why can't you see it in someone else's eyes?

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

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