

## "The Creed of a Holocaust Survivor"

by Alexander Kimel

I do believe, with all my heart,  
In the natural Goodness of Man.  
Despite the blood and destruction,  
Brought by one man, trying to be God,  
In the Goodness of Man, I do believe.

I do believe, with all my heart,  
That God gave man the blessing and the curse.  
Man can select the curse of envy, hatred and prejudices,  
Or the blessing of love, harmony and beauty.  
Despite the painful curses of the past,  
In the blessing of the Creator, I do believe.

I do believe, with all my heart,  
That God created a beautiful world,  
The sun and the trees, the flowers and the bees.  
And the best way to serve God, is  
To enjoy the fruits of His labor of love.  
Despite the painful memories from the past,  
In the joyful celebration of life, I do believe.

I do believe with all my heart,  
That God has created man in image of His own.  
And killing of man, is like killing of God.  
Despite the massacres in Rwanda, the cleansing in Bosnia,  
The folly of Muslim fanatics, and the cruelty of Pot Pol.  
In the love and compassion of the Creator, I do believe.

I believe with all my heart,  
That the Messiah and the Kingdom of Heaven will come;

When man will conquer his destructive urge,  
And learn how to live in harmony with nature and himself.  
When all the preachers of hate will be silenced,  
And man will become his brother's keeper.

When man will stop killing man, in the name of God,  
And nation will not lift weapons against nation.  
When it will be, I do not know, but  
Despite all the signs to the contrary.  
In the dawn of a Better World, I do believe.

## "First They Came for the Jews"

by Martin Niemöller

First they came for the Jews  
and I did not speak out  
because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for the Communists  
and I did not speak out  
because I was not a Communist.

Then they came for the trade unionists  
and I did not speak out  
because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for me  
and there was no one left  
to speak out for me.

## "Tale of a Sprinter, in the Winter of 1938"

by Sudeep Pagedar

### THE PAST -

I am an athlete from Berlin,  
my feet are fast and swift.  
I can run faster than anyone!  
Truly, this is the Lord's gift!

Any race I participate in,  
I always come in first,  
for I tell myself, "I HAVE to win";  
it is like a great thirst.

Even if someone, somehow passes me,  
I put on an extra burst of speed  
and run past him, leaving him behind;  
thus, I take the lead.

I once thought, "If I keep running this way,  
I might be in the Olympics, some day..."

### THE PRESENT -

But now the year is nineteen-thirty-eight  
And for my dreams, it's just too late.

My running days are all gone,  
I'm not going to see tomorrow's dawn.

Yes, it is true  
that I can run very fast;

But it is also true  
that I am a Jew...  
There's no running, from the Holocaust.

## "Holocaust"

by Barbara Sonek

We played, we laughed  
we were loved.  
We were ripped from the arms of our  
parents and thrown into the fire.  
We were nothing more than children.  
We had a future. We were going to be lawyers,  
rabbis, wives, teachers, mothers. We had  
dreams, then we had no hope. We were taken  
away in the dead of night like cattle in cars, no  
air to breathe smothering, crying, starving,  
dying. Separated from the world to be no  
more. From the ashes, hear our plea. This  
atrociousness to mankind can not happen again.  
Remember us, for we were the children whose  
dreams and lives were stolen away.

## "Epitaph for a Child of the Nakba"

by Michael R. Burch

I lived as best I could, and then I died.  
Be careful where you step: the grave is wide.