

New Beginnings

Rocky sharp edges, creek beds, khaki pants
Sheer black long-lace here where I physically stand
Murmurs and whispers from a deeply sacred space
Heels to match, make-up complete, hair pinned back in place
Controlled conditions, whether here or there
At the time we weren't sure we'd cope nor bear
Misguide, belonging, brilliant Mother Earth
Around tables, tall glasses, soft lighting, a sense of self-worth
A selection hand-picked, precious rural gems
Gather briefly once more, Like this, perhaps never again
Encounters by minutes across days, weeks and months
Fifteen in total, places, faces, challenging stunts
Reflections tear deep through the down time between
And I amongst all this, what's it to mean?

In the name of leadership, remote and vast
Introspective learnings unlikely all have passed
An allusive, deeply personal and varied notion
Driven by what's innately human and in constant motion
Residing within us, before the conditioning seized hold
Exposed only by an agonising stripping away from stiff stubborn moulds
Bask only in your truth, embers embedded your core plight
Values, meaningful connections, strength in vulnerability the ultimate light

There is a contradiction in wanting to be perfectly secure within
In a universe whose very nature is a fluid momentary continuum.
Intent versus impact the key question for each and everyone
Laying below the surface of mere conflict between needing certainty and the absolute fact for change...
smells like revolution
Our resistance is growing, as does irony, do we see?
For if security is what we seek, That is protection from these fluctuations rife,
Than is what we're wanting in fact to be separated from life???

To be secure means to isolate and fortify the "I"
but it-IS just this feeling that destroys, creating even bigger lies.

As strangers united by selfless feat
We were growing in search after just one meet
From far to the north, crossing fast to the west
Upon ancient grounds we commenced man's physical test
East coast farming, Van Diemens Land, Stories collide
Elephants no longer possible to hide
Together we crossed the salt water, An archipelago so vast
A drop-in on neighbors, colorful contrasts
Complexities and intricacies not obviously known,
By calm waters, hopeful moments, perceptions were overthrown



So what do YOU do??? So I may now label you
Place you in boxes based only on your economic value...

Systemic structures sanctuary
Set and stabilise struggles certainty
To thrive or survive the difference delicately
Through acts of kindness, compassion, devout empathy

So humbled hearts, souls afar
Distant teachings, and falling stars
Feet on earth, hearts within
Forgiveness sought, now let's begin
By all means tend your garden season your meal
But it's in service of others that we continue to heal
Grace and humility small prices to pay
Release and exhale come that what may
On the cusp of monumental shifts, all partly our shame
The strengths in our human connection, and EQ key to this infinite game
Our species tasked with protecting, we can no longer place blame
Leadership legacies, old wisdom all must be reclaimed
The bigger scheme of considering our humanity
Our roles, responsibilities, ENTIRE functionality
Our children screaming for change, change, change
Our collective contributions have this arranged

Is English your second language? Oh you're a mother of three!
A survivor of abuse? Addiction or a disability
Left, Right, I'm sorry, I just don't agree...
Made in China, a US import or of green n gold
Follow Jesus, bow to Allah, assalamualaikum
Black or white what's the narrative you've been taught n told?

Forget not connection, without it the havoc that lasts
Miraculous lessons by those who walked before us, we're blinded by ever deceptive masks
Shifting winds and shooting stars, whether here or there
Unashamedly brutal about why you care
On the fringes I drift, eyes wide open, heart full
Moment to moment, in wonder, a force, it's this relentless pull
Gracious to an Alumni and my path as was planned
Sheer black long-lace where I now physically stand
Misguide, belonging, brilliant mother earth
Around tables, tall glasses, soft lighting, a sense of self worth
Dig deep, reach far, jump high, dream big
Nurture darkness, ignite others...
afterall it's this beautiful simplicity that's the leadership gig

Yola Bakker, October 2019

