

A Beautiful Place

by Brent Zapushek

Last week I was an editor
And a semi-famous poet
But that would be gone then
Before I would know it

Flushed down into the city
To life down on the streets
There is nothing to fear
I must say that to me

On one side I see those
That for one fix would kill me
Untamed and so violent
Evil emanating

Nothing here to be afraid of
I keep telling myself
Adjusting to life here
On this bottom shelf

This one where the moneyed
Act as though I don't exist
Persisting the problem
Of this epidemic

Proportionate damage
Beyond my control
There's no need for fear here
Yet still now I must go

Away from the danger
That is surrounding me.
Out to a place where that
Then beauty must be

To set down my pack
To let my guard down
To stretch out myself
Take in all the sounds

The sound of no one screaming
The site of flowered plants
The smell of natures presence
Reminds me who I am

To say hi to a stranger
Hear them hello back at me
Perhaps to sit and talk about
Whatever that may be

To soon it must happen
I must make my way downtown
Nothing to be afraid of
I must return there now

Nothing here to fear now
The sirens here they scream
I think that ones dead
Laying there by the street

That is someone's daughter
At least, once she was
The streets claim another
Her death now for no cause

There's nothing to see here
So move on along
Nothing can be done now
She's already gone

Nothing to be afraid of
I must find something to eat
The pain it lives all over
Be still my aching feet

My pack is so damn heavy
I cannot feel my arms
My back feels like it's broken
Just add that to my scars

Soon I must find me
Somewhere then to sleep
Pray for the Lord now
For then my soul to keep

It may be a sidewalk
It may get insane
Probably cold then
And most likely rain

Need health insurance?

CareOregon's goMobile Team makes it easy for you to get dental, mental and physical health care under the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). Our community partners host us on these dates, where we can check your eligibility for OHP, enroll you in Medicaid/OHP and make your doctor appointments!

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

CAREOREGON

315 SW 5th Ave, Portland

- June 6 9-11 a.m.
- June 13 9-11 a.m.
- June 20 9-11 a.m.
- June 27 9-11 a.m.

CLACKAMAS SERVICE CENTER

8800 SE 80th Ave, Portland

June 12 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

NEW!

► SNAP Assistance
available at these
locations

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

50 SW 2nd Ave, Portland

- June 5 9-11 a.m.
- June 12 9-11 a.m.
- June 19 9-11 a.m.
- June 26 9-11 a.m.

GOOD IN THE HOOD EVENT

King School Park - NE 6th Ave &

NE Humboldt St, Portland

June 24 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

JOIN

1435 NE 81st Ave, Ste 100, Portland

June 14 12-2 p.m.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Legacy Emanuel Field

2801 N Gantenbein Ave, Portland

June 16 12-5 p.m.

MOUNT HOOD FARMERS MARKET

38600 Proctor Blvd, Sandy

June 15 3-7 p.m.

PORTLAND RESCUE MISSION

111 W Burnside, Portland

- June 14 8-10 a.m.
- June 28 8-10 a.m.

UNION GOSPEL MISSION

3 NW 3rd, Portland

► June 26 2-4 p.m.

WORKSOURCE GRESHAM

19421 SE Stark St, Portland

- June 7 2-4 p.m.
- June 28 2-4 p.m.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

BEAVERTON LIBRARY

12375 SW 5th St, Beaverton

June 13 1-3 p.m.

Starlight
Parade
June 2,
2018

Portland
Pride Parade
June 17,
2018

For information, or to host our team, call Tamara at 503-416-1479 or Caleb at 503-416-4883.

careoregon.org/gomobile

 CareOregon
goMobile team