

Independence

by Eileen Vizenor

Independence should mean being able
 To survive in this economy
 The poverty and homelessness numbers are
 On the rise.
 Sad to see families homeless.
 Shelters fill up quickly across
 The country.
 When will it end?
 Independence, for me, would be
 Affordable housing.
 To survive.

Brethren

by Brandon Morgrove

Turtles, turtles
 of the Galapagos regiment
 bathing in the sunlight
 of the aquamarine elements.
 Walking on your sands
 like you're walking on the moon
 into the gardens
 where the mermaids swoon.
 I dream fantasies
 like a Sufi mystic
 in the kingdom of Archimedes
 with trident and prayer stick.
 While on four sturdy legs
 my little brothers stand
 with their heads held erectly
 to behold this land.
 My heart hails the mermaids,
 the turtles, and the king
 seeing our world not just as proving grounds
 but as a jewel to keep sterling.

Time

by Tina Drake

Howling bane, harkens the light
 Falling, falling into oblivion
 Savagery and desolation in a heart so true
 Sinking further into this hole of despair.
 Hatred kindled by a pain felt this day
 Minute by minute, hour by hour
 The pain ebbs on, hope enduring
 A tragedy known so strong.
 Like a knife cutting deep
 One love gone in the blink of the eye
 Soon one knows their time will come.



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