

My Gift To You

A quintet of healing poems

For Sarah

Dead Man Hanging... A Black Poem

“How Dare You” Great Anger

Dead Man’s Hair... Turning Point

Shining Inside and Out Light and Healing

Instead of a Rope or a Gun A Poem of Hope

Author’s Note...

While out walking – Sarah came across a man who had just committed suicide! This happened 25 years before I heard the story and wrote these poems. She had carried her anger, grief, hurt and sadness - in her heart, for all of this time!

Earth Angel 181

Dead Man Hanging...

From a tree in a forest,
It could have been
A bad, bad dream -
But *your* number
Was on *his* bullet,
You were the first
On the scene!

Frantic moments to save him -
Could you make him live?
Too heavy to lift...
Found an axe,
But the harder you hit -
The more the rope
Would give.

All the whisky - you drank
In the bath that night,
And *all* the soapy water,
Couldn't drown him -
Or wash him away!

He just stepped off
That ute,
Straight into your life...

Like an uninvited guest,
Just hanging around,
Unwanted -

And forever,
To stay.

Tim Barritt. 13.4.07.
Earth Angel 181

How Dare You...

You bastard!

When you put that noose
Around your neck -
You pulled that
Horrible thing,
Tight, around my heart...

You bastard!

If I had lifted
A little bit harder,
Or if the axe
Had been a little bit sharper...
Perhaps,
Just perhaps,
I could have saved you.

I tried so hard,
I so much wanted
To make you alive -
It goes around
And around
In my head...

I'm just *so*,
So very angry,

I can't even wish
You were dead!

Tim Barritt. 13.4.07.
Earth Angel 181

Dead Man's Hair...

But
You knew
In your heart,
That he was dead -
Before you came.

You saw his hair,
Blowing in the wind.

Like dead sheep's wool,
A dead man's hair

Never blows the same.

Tim Barritt. 13.4.07.
Earth Angel 181

Shining Inside and Out!...

On one still,
Beautiful, starry
Starry night,
I would pluck ten
Of the brightest stars –
From our magical
Australian sky,

And place them
In two perfect circles,
Around your hurting heart.

This is
My gift to you.

So that wonderful
Outward glow...
That we have all come
To love and know,

Will *always* shine
Just as brightly -

On your
Inside too.

Tim Barritt. 13.4.07.
Earth Angel 181

Instead of a Rope or a Gun.

There is a learning
From this story,
Which I struggle
To impart,

But if our men
Are feeling suicidal -
They should know,
That they just can't solve
Their problems

By dropping their
Deadly bundle...
Straight into
Someone else's,
Precious heart!

Even in darkness,
There is always hope -
Which springs eternal,
As after night,
Comes the rising sun,

And there is always
Someone to reach out to,

Instead of
A rope or a gun.

Tim Barritt. 13.4.07.
Earth Angel 181