

No.1

In the Rain

By Keeno

Feeling as if I'm holding my breath,
Curling up and hugging those knees of mine,
Outside the closed window, the sky has begun to cry
Endlessly calling out your name,
In this voice that's grown hoarse
It's time to stop doing it over and over again
Hey, just supposing,
If my voice could ring out and reach to wherever you are,
I'd never let go of that hand again
Any sense of warmth is wiped away as I grow colder and colder.
It hurts so much like this. Where are you now?
I am still living on here alone
Waiting for a sky like the one from those days we spent together.
Even now, just like those days long past,
Since I can surely smile like I did back then...
Hey, that's why, please just please...
Hey, I beg of you...Rain, rain, go away...
Always lapsing into that habit of searching for you.

No.2

Not To Be Silenced

Dear brother and sisters, we must not forget that millions of people are suffering from poverty, injustice and ignorance. We must not forget that millions of children are out of their schools. We must not forget that our sisters and brothers are waiting for a bright, peaceful future.

So let us wage... So let us wage a global struggle against illiteracy, poverty and terrorism. Let us pick up... Let us pick up our books and our pens. They are our most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world. Education is the only solution.

Education first.

Thank you.

No.3

One day I visited the vice-director of a watch manufacturer and asked him for support for my dream to travel around the world by bicycle. I enthusiastically talked to him. He listened to me eagerly, and said, "I had a dream similar to yours, but I couldn't realize it. So I've decided that we'll support you in your project."

The president of the company I worked for also extended a special favor to me. When he learned that I was going to quit the company to make my dream come true, he said to me, "You don't have to quit my company. I'll give you a four-year paid leave."

Many people supported me in my project. Without their support, I could not have made it.

We can do nothing on our own. I learned this through my travels.

No.4

I will not give in to the rain (Ame ni mo makezu) By Kenji Miyazawa

I will not give in to the rain,
I will not give in to the wind.
I will have a healthy body
that won't give in to the snow
or to summer's heat.
I will not have desire.
I will not get angry.
I will always be smiling quietly.
I will eat four cups of brown rice,
miso and a bit of vegetables each day.
In everything,
I will not count myself.
I will look, listen and understand well,
and I won't forget.
I will live in a small thatched hut
in a field in the shade of some pine trees.
When there is a sick child in the east,
I will go and nurse him.
When there is a tired mother in the west,
I will go and carry her load of rice.
When there is a person dying in the south, I will go and say,

“You don’t have to be afraid.”
When there are fights of lawsuits in the north,
I will say,
“Stop it, because it’s not important.”
When there is a drought,
I will shed tears.
When the summer is cold,
I will walk around helplessly.
I will be called useless by everyone.
I will not be praised
or thought a pain.
This is the person
I want to be.

No.5

In a People House

By Theo Leising

“Come inside, Mr. Bird” said the mouse.
“I’ll show you what there is in a People House...
A People House has things like ...chairs, things like roller skates and stairs,
Banana, bathtub, bottles, blooms.
That’s what you find in a people’s rooms.
Scissors, needle, buttons, thread, cup and saucer, pillow, bed.
These are doughnuts. Here’s a door. Come along, I’ll show you more.
Here’s a ceiling, here’s a floor.
Piano, peanuts, popcorn, pails, pencil, paper, hammer, nails, salt, and pepper, gold
fish, key, table, telephone, TV. Come on! Come on! There’s more to see! You’ll
see a kitchen sink in a People House, a shoe and a sock and a clock, said the mouse.
Bread and butter, window, wall, toothbrush, hair brush, big blue ball, baked beans,
bureau drawers, and books.
Lights, and lamps and hats and hooks.
Mirror, marbles, shirt and string, knife, fork, spoon and bells to ring. Doll and
dishes, teapot, trash. Look out below! I’m going to CRASH.
And another thing, it’s time you knew...A People House has people, too. “And now,
Mr. Bird, you know,” said the mouse. You know what there is in a People House.”