

Poetry Series

**Rita Umali**  
**- poems -**

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Rita Umali()

# A Bed Of Clouds

&lt;/&gt;Looking at the immensity of space  
Endless perpetual above the clouds  
Your creation Lord  
Never fails to make me awed by its beauty

A sea, an ocean bed cottony whitish foam  
In stark contrast with the bluish sky above

Amazing masterpiece  
The Lord has painted  
Yet our lives can surpass  
The grandeur of any creation of the Lord

Simply because the Lord loves us most  
In Him we were created in his likeness  
Perfect and flawless in his eyes

Rita Umali

# A Gift Of Life

Everytime I see you  
I thank God for his marvelous gift  
A gift of Life

Everytime I hear your laughter  
I hope I could preserve the joy of the moment  
And freeze time so you'll be always happy

Everytime I feel your tears  
I wish I could wipe them and erase the memory of hurt  
I pray to bear your pain instead

Everytime I am away from you  
I long so much to embrace you  
And feel warmth of your love

Everytime I see you sleep so peacefully  
I trust God to protect you at all times  
And be at your side in the days to come

Everytime we celebrate your birthday  
I wonder what's waiting for you  
Hoping and praying silently  
That all best will be yours

I love you so much my daughter

Rita Umali

# A Lesson From Sarah

Courage amidst pain  
Hoping for darkness to leave forever  
Waiting for light to come  
And free my soul

Life has many faces  
Paths and roads  
Sometimes it may not be  
The one we wanted  
Yet we've got to hang on  
Never give up

Christ stood by his promise  
His life for us  
An ordeal he went through  
That we may have a new life

Trials are nothing  
Compared to a second  
Of pure joy and happiness  
That only Christ can give

I hope in you O Lord  
A promise you made  
I wait for it with trembling heart  
With excitement  
Believing your love never fails

O how I long to see your answer  
In my arms  
Jesus thank you  
For every ounce of hope I have  
Because without you  
I would have given up a long time ago

Rita Umali

# A Quiet Confidence

out of darkness  
you called me  
you set free  
my crippled heart  
my broken soul

a midst the storm  
you put me  
high above  
the clouds  
and granted me  
peace and joy  
against the turmoil  
of the world's woe

you healed the nightmares  
of the past  
made whole my life  
created a new creation  
a beautiful one

Lord you put new hope  
in my heart  
my spirit drowned  
in your love  
and grace

with a new day  
i face  
not with fear  
nor pride  
but just a quiet  
confidence  
in my God  
Jesus

who will strengthen me  
all throughout

Rita Umali

# A Ray Of Hope

A ray of hope  
Is all we need  
A glimpse of sunshine  
Is enough

Lord come  
Clear out the dark clouds  
In our hearts

Let gentle light flow  
Whisper into our soul  
And let our minds  
Dwell in you safely  
Firmly and quietly

A little touch  
A fleeting moment  
Kind words  
Is all I need  
Come

Silence my spirit  
Let me rest  
Please

Rita Umali



# A Roadway In The Desert

Like a roadway in the desert  
God will make a way  
I have longed for such day to come  
I pray each moment  
Lord please make a way

But most of the time  
The ways he make  
Are not what I have desired  
It brings pain than joy  
Questions than answers

Yet still my heart is drawn  
Worshipping you Lord  
Giving you praise  
Rejoicing through hurting  
Anger surfaces  
Driving my heart crazy  
Placing my mind in turmoil

Then I calm down  
Trembling flesh  
Holding real hard your heart Lord  
O how difficult for me to live each day  
Your sunrise is a dear blessing to me  
A ray of hope

Rita Umali

# Bells

I hear  
bells ringing  
such a sweet sound

announcing  
a baby's baptism  
a confirmation  
of Christ's gift

I hear  
the bells laughing  
a joyful one  
a voice  
of commitment  
a covenant

a calling  
a wedding  
to celebrate  
to bless the Lord  
a unity of two  
different persons  
made one  
in God's eyes  
and men

I hear  
the bells dancing  
a story to tell  
a recess from a class  
or to hear the Word of God  
to kneel before Christ  
in the church's altar  
a time to sleep  
a time to wake up

I hear  
the bells crying  
a passing

ā death  
ē separation

yet I hear a different bell  
music  
a song of welcome  
heralding  
ōur souls  
ŵe are home  
ī heaven  
ī the arms of our Lord

Rita Umali

# Better Days Are Coming

we are common clay pots  
only the power of God  
can change us  
can heal  
for my soul is tormented  
heaviness every morning  
there is not an hour  
that I come to Lord  
Praying for guidance  
for every decisions I make

a midst hope  
a wish  
life would be more beautiful  
I wish  
but it cannot be  
I am shackled  
imprisoned  
I cannot be free  
from my anointing  
making decisions  
with my human frailty  
we must hang on and hold  
onto the power of God

and move on  
even if decisions are sometimes wrong  
we are all common clay pots  
the power of God  
will be on us  
purifying our motives  
that we may do the things we do  
because of the Lord alone

God spoke  
and with my tortured soul  
I hold onto his word

Better days are coming...

Rita Umali

# Blue Rose

wish i could lay my eyes on the blue rose  
aches to touch it, caress the petals  
feel its texture on my skin  
smell its fragrance and have it stored in my memory

need to touch need to feel  
close to the blue rose  
see it bloom, fully share its passion  
and beauty in its core  
experience the blue rose

listen to its dance  
with the wind and sky  
knowing and wanting it so much  
such passion  
yet where is the blue rose  
never existed  
only lives in my mind  
hoping its real  
not a dream

Rita Umali

# Chasing Dreams

when I was a child  
I used to chase dreams  
dreams so hard to get  
I thought life rest  
on dreams achieved  
so many struggles  
I've gone through  
chasing dreams

I cried  
sometimes with tears  
as the heart slowly hardens  
stone cold I face reality  
dreams are not for me

yet last night  
I saw you  
and what a beautiful person  
you are  
I never expected such thing  
that dreams may still come true

Rita Umali

# Dawn

clouds  
darkening  
storm  
coming

yet  
peace  
joy  
rests  
in our hearts

knowing  
even  
trouble  
rambling  
not physically  
but  
deep  
in our hearts  
souls  
questions  
arise

still...  
light  
prevails  
dawning  
magnificently  
conquering  
calming  
the seas  
we face

Rita Umali



# Fabrics Of Life

Life is full of many colors, shades and hues  
Sometimes we find colors we don't like  
and sometimes we come to discover  
that all colors were really a part of God's plan for us

We only see the other side of the woven cloth  
and thinks that it is not beautiful at all  
because the design and mixtures of shades and hues  
are not according to our likes or wants

Sometimes we encounter the color of pain  
and shades of frustrations  
Most of the time we promise not to sin  
yet we fall and renounces God's will  
in seconds

The bitterness of what we have done  
Astounds our morals  
but when we approach God with contrite hearts  
we begin to see the colors of joy  
in God's mercy and forgiveness

Then we understand  
that the Lord sees both sides of the fabric  
thus we know that the colors of joy and pain  
are intertwined  
to be able to create a masterpiece  
from the fabric of our lives  
and who should create such perfect  
masterpiece

but the Master Himself  
Christ our Lord Jesus

Rita Umali

# Faith

Faith

I never knew that such a simple word can be so scary

Faith...

It keeps on circling in my mind

Just to realize what it means is just to:

Believe...

No questions asked

No condition

No assurance

Just that God says so

Have faith in me my child

I will hold your hand

Step forward

Believe

I am with you

I am so afraid

But I believe that the Lord loves me more than anyone I know

Faith

Believing and knowing and seeing before it happens

Jesus says so

I believe.

Rita Umali

# Heart Of My Song

Lord JESUS  
You are the heart  
of my song  
every joyful note  
proclaimed  
a song of love  
of wonders  
of grace  
and mercy

a song  
for you alone  
in my veins  
and flesh  
beating  
with happiness  
a commitment  
to CHRIST  
the heart of my song

Rita Umali

# I Live In Silence Awaiting

Words have left me for awhile  
My heart became mute  
My thoughts was never uttered  
Pain of waiting has numbed my bones

Yet my heart throb  
With flickering hope  
Faith so small yet so strong  
The Lord of my life will rise once more  
Conquering the nothingness of my core  
Time has come for my spirit  
Ablaze with fire

O Lord how I ache  
My eyes have stopped crying  
My pain no more  
Shallow but its depth  
Rooted into my soul

Yet I still await for your promise  
You have been silent for quite a long time  
But my heart tells me  
You love me more than I can believe

The promise will come soon  
Then I will have another life to begin  
Another battle to win

O Lord how I cry in silence  
My soul longs for you  
And my flesh yearns for your touch

Heal me Lord  
Come and heal me  
Your joy has remained in me  
But loneliness creeps in wanting to devour me

O Lord come hear my cry  
Hold me in your arms

Rack me as I Sleep  
Let my heart rest O God in your bosom  
Hold me that I may not loose you  
Such trials I live in silence

Rita Umali

# In God's Perfect Time

So many dreams I had  
Hopes on things impossible for me  
But possible to God  
Faith  
On what is seen and unseen  
Soon dawn will come

Yet I see  
So many people hurting  
Only God knows why  
O Lord let your light shine

Our hearts are imprisoned  
By our imperfections  
Our sins and weaknesses

I cry out to you  
Let our dreams come true  
And turn our mourning to joy  
But I rest in your strength  
Believing all my dreams will come true

Lord I long to hold my child in my arms  
And sing lullabys to him  
O how I dream to comb her hair  
And wipe the tears from their eyes

To hear their voices  
To see their smiles  
Laughter and cries  
What a joy to behold  
I may never stop thanking God  
For such a wonderful gift  
But still I have to wait  
For God's perfect time

Rita Umali

# Lessons From A Broken Jeep

Journeying  
through our life  
we pass  
a jagged road  
a paved  
smooth  
one  
trees  
of different colors  
and shapes  
dust  
and rain

breathtaking  
beauty  
of sunsets  
over a horizons  
of massive  
mountains

as we sat down  
enjoying  
the scenic view  
sometimes  
we forget  
that  
we can have  
a broken jeep  
whether  
it can be repaired  
or not  
we don't know

struggles  
we may have  
trying to get out  
of a seemingly  
unending  
hole of mud

yet  
we could also  
get out  
so easily  
if we just  
focus  
on the hands  
outstretch  
patiently  
waiting for us  
to extend our hands  
to HIM  
our Lord

Rita Umali



# Let My Heart Melt

I thirst for peace  
My heart is troubled  
Soul is in a whirlpool  
I stretch my hand so hard  
Yet nobody seems to reach out

I don't want to stay in this dark  
And empty pit  
Lord let me see your light  
Let your hand reach out for me  
Enkindle your love in my heart  
Let my heart melt

Rita Umali

# Listen

Listen to people talk  
Listen with your heart and soul  
Listen in your mind  
with memories  
with touch

People talk not only with words  
but with laughter  
with hands  
with songs  
and poems

Listen with your eyes  
for words are sometimes said  
with a glance  
with silence  
with fears  
or with a dance  
and a story

Listen at all times  
for moments are precious  
and never be brought back  
time passed never comes again

Listen for JESUS speaks every time  
we see friends around  
or hear babies laugh  
a smile from someone

Listen because we need to be heard  
and to know someone does

Listen

Rita Umali

# Miracle Does...

Miracle Does Happen

I didn't realize  
How true is hope and light  
In the shadows of darkness  
Until I saw the sun rays  
Through the silhouette of coconut trees  
As dawn fights with the night

A dark contrast  
Trees were stark black  
As the sky turns bluish, yellowish and orange  
Overcoming the remnants of the grayish night

Yet on the other side of the sky  
The half moon watching  
As the sun comes out from its slumber  
Welcoming rest  
Saying goodbye for now  
Heralding a new day

What a sight to behold  
The sun and moon  
Together in one moment

At the end of the tunnel  
There is light  
hope  
and miracle  
It happened  
Sun and moon in one  
Both in the sky

Yes it does happen  
Miracle does  
Just believe...  
I do... I am...



# Moments

moments  
are remembered  
treasured

thoughts  
are shared  
laughter  
and smiles  
etched in memory  
cherished

little things  
given and done  
marked  
important

words  
unsaid  
eyes met  
touch  
a glimpse  
moments  
remembered  
beautiful

music  
relaxing  
presence  
felt in my bones  
and veins  
moments  
caressed  
savored

Rita Umali

# Only Eyes Can Tell

When I was young  
I thought its an end  
when you lose somebody  
but i realized  
life goes on

sadness may cloud over us  
memories haunting  
even at daytime  
our eyes may cry no more  
for it had dried up already  
crying all night

sometimes  
such pain  
cannot express  
by words alone  
only the eyes can tell

perhaps  
what Jesus experienced  
felt  
when he was abandoned  
by his friends  
was much deeper  
and more painful  
than we have  
yet he lived on  
to give us life  
love  
and peace

I know a friend  
whose wife died recently  
I know his great love for her  
for they were inseparables  
when she left  
the whole world crumbled

but the Lord  
lifted him up  
giving him  
courage to go on  
believing someday  
they will see each other again  
somewhere in heaven

you and I may never have  
the one we love back again  
but  
I beleive  
the Lord's best for us  
is just nearby  
we just have to trust in HIM

Rita Umali

# Our Secret

I see the birds fly  
and hear them sing  
I see the flowers bloom  
and the dancing grass  
how happy they are  
and so am I  
we have a secret  
between us  
we know in our hearts  
GOD loves us  
and you my friend  
do you know how much  
GOD loves you?  
Let me tell you then....

Rita Umali



# Partners

Having you at my side gives me comfort  
Makes me secure that no money can buy  
I rest in peace when I see you  
Tiredness goes away everytime I hold your hand  
Embraces are priceless  
Moments are precious  
The joy of being together gives me both sanity and hope

Yet my heart says you need me to let go  
To allow your wings to spread, fly and soar  
To fall once in a while and make decisions on your own  
How hard it is for me  
But I will for your sake  
Someday I will see you be the best  
and reach your dreams

I know I will be your partner always  
In wins and in losses I will be at your side  
To celebrate with and to comfort you when needed

Rita Umali

# Realization

When I was a child  
I used to gaze at the shining stars  
I silently wished that someday  
I would be like them  
Enthroned would look up to me.

As the years passed  
I had everything the world can offer  
I've reached my destiny  
But I was not satisfied  
I reached out for more  
Until I sold my life to the world.

I lived up to the standards of the world  
Trying to please everyone I meet  
Trying to cope up with the realities  
And trying to face difficulties  
But my strength failed me  
Problems began to swallow me  
And my life was falling apart

I began to question the existence of my life  
I began to realize I need Jesus Christ  
To help me carry the great burden

Rita Umali

# Security Checks

Making choices in our lives are sometimes an ordeal  
Its like the security checks we have in the airport  
Need to scrutinize every detail and touch points  
The only difference is the result  
The latter gives you a definite answer  
Whereas the first one gives you the start of another journey  
Or another stage or chapter in one's life.  
It doesn't assure you that you got the right formula to succeed  
The process continues in our lives from one choice to another  
Hoping that we will not just survive the intricacies of human existence  
But as well as have a LIFE.

But one definite and sure answer that erases ambiguity  
Is that we have Christ to anchor to  
To Lean on to and rest  
With a prayer in our hearts and a hope  
That whatever choice we make  
We are able to align with His WILL, with His HEART  
And be assured that no matter  
What trials we face and hardships we undergo  
We will have JOY always

Rita Umali

# Silence

how I wish for silence to come  
that my heart may stand still  
to rest in your silence Lord  
Silence my heart Lord  
that I may listen to your will  
and not my own  
that I may hear the people around me  
Silence my mind Lord  
that I may see your dreams  
and not mine  
Silence let it come  
into the core of my soul  
that I may rest  
and stop doubting  
letting faith grow  
I hear you Lord  
as my heart stand still  
silence that fills  
a rest I need

Rita Umali

# Sunrise And Us

Each day I travel to office  
I watch the sunrise  
Magnificent proud and commanding  
So beautiful  
Defying any master artist's painting  
Always new and unique each day

Magnetized and in awe  
I praise the Lord for such amazing creation  
But I was caught off balance

When the Lord tell us that we are more beautiful  
Than any sunrise in any history written and witnessed  
Different for every DNA and cells  
Each is so valuable and special to Him  
Loved and cared  
Every moment  
Every second

When we are down on our knees  
And the dark clouds are circling  
Winds are storming  
Remember the sunrise  
And how it pales  
to who we are in the eyes of our God

Rita Umali

# Sunset

When I was growing as a little kid  
I dread for sunset to come  
And darkness to fill the earth  
I was so afraid of being alone  
Lying on my small bed waiting for the sun to rise

O Lord I thank thee  
For allowing me to see how beautiful the sunset is  
Each day colors of the sunset is so different from yesterday  
I marvel and is awed by your masterpiece

And throughout my journey  
I've learned sunset in life is often rest and peace  
Not something to be afraid of  
But something to look forward to  
A haven, a sanctuary

Now as I watched the flame of the sun  
Slowly changing into grays  
Intertwined in blazing but subdued red and orange  
I can see the Lord's arms spread across  
A sunset telling me I am home

Rita Umali

# The Goal

i was riding in a car  
along the south super highway  
ahead was a long winding road

i passed some trees  
rice fields and fences  
i asked the Lord  
how long is this road?

i kept on running the race  
some i left behind  
some were ahead of me  
still i haven't reached its end

the road continued winding  
life went on  
the sun sits on its throne  
air caressed my shin gently  
i went on the road

i asked the Lord  
how long am i going to run  
the race

then the clouds darkened  
rain poured out from heaven  
mud formed in the fields  
ponds with coffee colors  
spread out

how long it will take me Lord  
to reach my goal  
to be in your arms

then the road stopped  
i saw beauty around me  
tall trees stand mightily  
so proud yet gentle

children played boisterously  
unmindful of the running time  
the hills rolled creeks flowed clear as crystal

i asked the Lord  
is your kingdom as beautiful as this  
no, my child  
nothing can surpass  
the beauty  
of my Kingdom  
once you die first

death will bring life  
and my road continued winding  
becoming steeper, rough and dark  
everyday i die  
yet i went on  
there is a beautiful goal  
ahead of me  
the KINGDOM of GOD

Rita Umali



# The Real Me

My heart is aching  
I am not fine  
LORD Jesus I need you  
I may look like a great warrior woman outside unscathed from wars  
But deep inside I am all confused, sad almost empty.

Sustain me O Lord  
What I am going through is nothing compared to some of my friends troubles  
and trials

Grant me strength and joy  
LORD Jesus I need you  
Take me out from this PIT  
Bring me to light  
Shine forth your love in my current darkness  
Help me save me  
Let your healing grace touch me  
The real me  
Hear me O God  
I pray with my soul and heart

Rita Umali

# The Soaring Eagle

In the vastness of our journeys

We may have directions or not

In the air we breathe

And the endless universe we are in

We maybe alone

But one thing sure, God is in control

Of our destinations

If we allow him

We will soar the peaks of his perfect plan

Like the eagle, he is at peace amidst the sky

In his solitude enjoying

the feel of the wind caressing his wings

unmindful of the quietness

and breathtakingly beautiful horizon

Rita Umali

# Touch Me

My heart is so heavy  
Yet the songs of the birds  
Never failed to lift my spirits  
Lord I don't know how long can I hang on

Father, Abba  
I come to you lying flat on my stomach  
I am drained  
Hold me and touch me please  
Bring me from strength to strength

I see so much tangible things  
Yet even those that doesn't exist yet  
You can create it  
And make it exist  
Your power is beyond me  
Far beyond I can see

Rita Umali

# What Is Real?

reality  
becomes real  
when it happens to us  
once it becomes real  
that's the time we understand

that nothing is certain  
in our lives  
what is certain  
is death  
and life

and what is certain  
is that God can take our lives  
anytime He wants  
and the question  
starts  
what have we done  
with our lives

when reality  
becomes real  
we begin to be awoken  
rudely  
from a deep slumber  
a lukewarmness  
that has crippled  
our hearts and spirit  
unknowingly

when we feel the pain  
physically  
emotionally  
or mentally  
we discover  
what ordeal our Lord  
went through  
for our sake  
and the question

starts  
are we worth it Lord?

and the answer  
is always real  
for his love  
was never a dream

Rita Umali

# Words

Words

how wonderful they are

they touch our souls

our spirits and hearts

words

they give life

to death

and death to life

words

etched in our memories

written

read

said

and heard

words

quenches

our thirst

for love

and care

a comfort

we long for

words

powerful when

left unsaid

but when told

with love

and joy

peace reigns

an overwhelming

comfort

words

easing out

the loneliness

we feel

sometimes

a proof

we are not alone

even if it seems so

words

the Lord  
died for  
that we may  
know  
his love  
and presence  
every moment

Rita Umali

# You

You....

One of the most special places in my heart will  
always be saved for you.

You....

the one person I can always talk to;  
the one person who understands.

You....

for making me laugh in the rain;  
for helping me shoulder my troubles.

You...

for being a friend in spite of myself,  
and always putting me back on my feet again.

You....

for giving me someone to believe in;  
someone who lets me know that there really is  
goodness and kindness and  
laughter and love in the world.

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