## **Poetry Series**

# Jason Jackson - poems -

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## Jason Jackson(1971)

I live, I breathe, I see, I notice..

## **Apology**

'Sorry', it's said as often as we breathe, mind your step, excuse me, as you take your leave say it too often and it's meaning doth wane it cannot dry a tear or clean a deep, well-trodden stain

Pardon the sin that I will repeat once more, hold back the tide & keep open the door. think before you act & hold that feeling see these deep veins, they're red & revealing.

Sorry, I should know better...

#### **Beat Goes On**

Bonfire in my solar plexus, fire in my loins, mild pulse beating in my middle-aged heart, former rage is now cooled through family life and I want the beat to go on

Frustrations of my younger self wrongs that I could've put right I come to set my market stall straight and I need the beat to go on

The body bag is still lying empty, there is still fast blood, flowing in these veins, my heart is still full of deep-longing listen to the beat going on

The hair is now fraying & sparse, the skin is now rippled, like the sea the pace is now steady, but slower, beat, beat, missed beat, beat

## **Broken Umbrella**

On the footpath lies a broken umbrella, just imagine the number of times it's been used, once loved, dependable, fashionable & fit, now lies disgraced, amongst the cigarette butts and dog shit

it's fabric is now tattered, some spokes are broken, it remembers rainy days and of gossip quietly spoken, do we all have a limited notion of self-worth, we first scream, breathe, then capitulate and end up cast upon dirt

## **Buddy**

Buddy has a hand gun & hasn't slept for 3 days, he has mood swings you know, his Father stopped abusing him when he reached puberty he has school tomorrow

He has a part-time job, he has experienced unrequited love, he keeps a stilletto blade in his sock he is bored of your sympathy

It could go either way, do you care he won't thank you anyway don't get involved, he's a statistic a body bag will carry your hopes & best wishes

#### **Calloused Hands**

Take a walk down my street, see the depressed, weary faces don't try to make eye contact examine your new shoes and laces

you can come into my front room, we will discuss the world at war, I'll make the tea & share some biscuits, you will leave in your 4.5 litre car

I will hang out with cool, trendy types, it's ever so good for my image, but when substance is needed, over style my upbringing is all I envisage.

So take a look at my calloused hands, believe that there is a much simpler view share with me, that which is not straight-forward and join me at the sparse pew.

## Day After Day

Loneliness is a crowded room, happiness is a loaded gun, Fruitfulness is a passive myth Real life, lost it's sense of fun

Past days are like an absent dream
Duty calls, as oft it will
Letting go, my silent scream
'my cloak, my staff. my comfort still'....

#### **Deliverance**

Because of you I will forever try to be The kind of man I will never be,

You drive me mad, then keep me sane cause me pain, but then heal said pain, my sentence is cast in rocks forlorn, avoid of negativity and reluctant scorn.

I am not envious of others situations,
I am thankful for the deliverance
Because of you, for now I will be
The kind of weak man, you view me to be

#### Farewell Cruel World

Farewell Cruel World, I must go on
My burden is such that I must beg your pardon
My limbs grow weary from bipolar angst
...and you carry on watching TV

I find it harder to reach a smile
I cannot find the time to beguile
my reason is turgid & hard to connect
...and you watch CSI on Channel 5

I no longer connect with political smear
I used to engage, but now no fear
I'm enraged with selfish, hypocritical smite
..and you read Hello magazine

So, that's it, I'm off to do myself in now which method should I apply something quick & painless perhaps whilst you watch cat food commercials

I'm too bored tonight, it's raining as well I'll sleep on it, tomorrow may prevail I'm fickle & my gumption is lacking I'm over here, If you'd like to speak to me

#### Faux Heaven

Desolation, deprivation & regret
I am bound by these chains & yet
my addiction takes hold of my being,
I continue to walk, without seeing

My heart may be blackened hue, but others see grey, I cannot walk the right line every day when you feel the real lack of realisation, I will help you off at the very next station

Leave me to die in my own unique way, do not try to revive me if I fade away there will be a place for me in faux heaven, when I take the dice & roll me a good seven

#### First Love

It is all encompassing, it is all consuming, It is bitter, it is glitter, It is wild & moving

It is sly, it is shy, and it is naïve & silly,
It involves notes & entendre, no mention of willy.
We hold hands, we dream, we plan, but alas
Our parents have already tied our masts to the sail.

I love the innocence I had as a child,
I was truly naïve & it's prevented me from original sin,
I had envy of mates who chose to easily give in
I was too shy to take part & much to my chagrin

You put me straight, you got your best friend to ask, Would I take you to the dance, no strings attached I will trust you, you're much kinder than me, I wonder what I will turn out to be.....

#### Flood

So Obama wins the Nobel prize for peace, he has not deserved this elephant of white, yet to be proven wrong or right,

Hey Barack get these storms to cease, stop the rain & make peace your only aim, ...no blame.

Share with us your misson for nuclear submission take the cars off the roads & prevent the implodes, tell us when the Afganistan invasion will end,

Tell the parents, no more kids they will have to send

Help Grandparents be confident they will outlast their grandkids, make sure that banks honour their raison d'etres give us a future that's built to last, put guilt, selfishness & damn self-motivation to past

## **Funny Farm**

Traffic jams are a way of life, delays will halt your path

Meanness always will exist, destroy it with a laugh

Mime artists will try, as they may, but end up looking daft

Ginger hair is not a curse, it's a historical design,

When you inhale your overpriced coffee, you'll believe that all is sublime.

You will walk on a crack in the pavement, you won't come to any harm,

I'm just starting up the car, first stop, is the funny farm

#### Go Away

Bing, Bong..a stranger to ignore, Knock, Rap, who's paining my front door, Ring, Ring, who's straining hard to sell Pop-up, Pop-up...F\*\*\* off to Bloody Hell

Who would want to support this industry It's tantamount to tranquility rape, I'm watching something good on TV, It's Superman, with his smashing red cape

I've got some toasted sandwiches on the go,
I don't want to buy your shoddy wares,
I've got lots of family things to focus on,
So stick your phone straight up your 'devil may care'...

## **Happy Easter**

Happy Easter to the girl with the flaxen hair, bless her face, her heart & her highly polished teeth. Happy Easter to the girl with devil may care, her over-protective parents & brother called Keith

Happy Easter to the girl who takes for granted, I've spent far too much time & money on you. Happy Easter to those whom I've neglected thus far, just find some nice bags & I'll buy the glue

#### How Are You?

Telephone rings (& is answered) ..

How do I feel? How am I?

Well, just how interested are you?

We've known each other for 2 years, but just how deep do you want to go?

My Father died last year, but you were on Holiday in Spain and I didn't want to spoil it for you.

If you really want to know, I'm f\*\*\*\*\* devastated,
I lost my Dad & my best friend in one foul swoop,
the person I called everyday, even more than my wife...

The one person who always used to tell me, that everything would be all right & that I don't need to worry..

Now I'm worried, I need to be grown up and I'm not sure how to be...

#### I Need

I need a backing singer, to make all these words sound good I need a woodcutter, to lighten all this wood

I need a Shrink, to makes sense of all this shit I need a reality check, it this really it?

I need a moving Buddy, to help me remember all my stuff, I'll need a heavy scaffold, when I decide I've had enough

I need a Leonard Cohen song, to get me in a sallow mood, I need a microwave, to reheat my lazy food

I need a Chauffeur to get me from A to B, I need to get my ass in gear, Big change, or wait and see?

I need, I want, all me, me, me Sorry, this isn't where I want to be. I'll watch the reruns on Channel 3

## John Lennon

He has been dead 30 years today, a shame, a real dreadful shame, if only his ugly, talentless wife had taken a bullet how our lives might well have changed.

#### **Kids**

I want to make my kids laugh
I need to feel their love waft (over me)
I want them to be decent kids
I try hard to not blow my lid

I need to look after my better & three-quarters She's good to me, two sons, no daughters Sometimes I need a shoulder to cry on, None better is there for me to rely on.

Maybe I'm too strict, I compare my kids, to my past
I never stood up to my elders, I would end up in a cast
I turned out all right, maybe I saw the light
But now when things go wrong, my stomach will turn all night

Today's kids have too much, too much stuff, too much stimulation Every request I make of them, seems to go to arbitration I try in hindsight, to make them feel grateful But comments I get can be forthright & hateful.

I make allowances as surely everyone can see, But do I lose a part of my personality, i.e. being me If I compromise everything that I truly believe in Will my grown up kids ever really respect the real me?

## Killing Season

The murky, muddy black pools are still & quiet, the land is silent & awaits, untilled. Dreams are too personal to discuss, the dreams that may never be fulfilled

Behold a light, a beacon, a shower, a heart string that has yet to be tugged, hope upon hope, hour after hour the future hides it's utter bleakness.

And soon, too soon we depart without ever knowing the real reason we spend our last days, roaming the ethereal streets in search of the killing season

## **Kite**

I like you but I hate you,
I need you, but I want you
I take you, but you're given
I love you, but I'm far too Northern to admit it

Take me to the water side, Show me a better life, take me to the countryside & i will reliquish the knife

#### Life Earned

Pick yourself off the floor & fight back, take the lesson & respond in full spite, you have hidden depths, which are as yet unexplored you will choose the right door, I'm assured

When others are toiling and trying in vain, you will focus & remain in control, with hard, life-earned skills behind you, nothing is too much, each scar and hard knock, worn as a cockade.

I admire your courage, we both cannot fail You see we both are grown from one egg, I will see you and rejoice on the other side No pity, no remorse..hard-edged

## Loneliness

Loneliness is a crowded room, do you really need to be here perhaps you would be better off at home, alone a tissue will absorb your private tear

The music, the noise, the mindless banter
The hussle, the bussle, the worry & consciousness
Better to let your thoughts wash over & beyond
take solace in those, who have you deep in their hearts

## **Memory**

When you forget my face, I'll still be there when your memory fades, I will remind you when you grow too weak to live strong I will rise to the challenge

Love that holds no bounds, will tie us the past will show that nothing shall change you would do the same for me I'm sure this is the kind of faith that could change the world

When you forget my name, I will cry life will be hard but I'm in this for the long game, I'll remember the good times, and be thankful for my sanity

## Missing Trophy

A passionate kiss is the missing trophy, a heart-warming hug is still devoid of heat, we speak, we live, we exist and exhale we die, sometimes alone, beyond the pale

We dramatise, we execute and keep our own council, your valentines poems will soon come to light, we probe, we question, but to what point, our bodies will keep life in it's 3 cornered hat

At a point, in the early hours of morning, my patience at it's lowest ebb, my fun will disappear forever I have but 3 minutes left to live, to call 911 or boil me an egg..

## **Miximitosis**

You died yesterday, I cannot cope I died yesterday, I definately can't cope Nobody can help, even though they try we'll still need a caterer for the buffet

China has put a man on the moon, they didn't use a space rocket, they just decided to get on each others shoulders

I've decided to mix up my poems for a laugh,
I promise to stop in a while,
I'll get back on the straight 'n narrow soon
let me know if it's worth a smile

#### Muncho

A little greedy goblin called Muncho, wanted something tasty for his luncho, some kippers or some strawberry bubbilicious, anything else would be more delicious

He took a walk to the sea one day, to see where the kippers came from, he was arrested for public gobliness & got off with a £50 fine

He planted some seeds in a jar, just to see if he could, but the seeds wouldn't take, so he left in his goblin car

He went home to his Goblin wife & kids, with not many stories to tell, so if you see the Goblin one day, tell him to bathe, to hide that smell.

## Music (As A Dad)

The Smiths said a light would never go out, but it did & they lied, I heard your favourite song on the radio & ended up crying, I used to believe in the power of the 1980's band, I'm getting too old for common sense to land

Popular music is now foreign to me, It's not what I like to listen to, I'm sorry if I can't express myself more eloquently, I'd rather listen to the sound of the sea.

Take my ears & block them completely,
I'm guilty of not sticking to my own strict loyalty,
I was spoilt in my childhood, with classics galore,
After rebelling for a while, I've returned once more

I have children now & I expect that they, Will make up their own record collections one day, They won't have to tape the BBC Top 40 They'll use the latest electronic tools, .. their forte.

## **Neil Diamond Songs**

We lay in a state of utter exhaustion, our bodies entwined in a relaxed embrace, we communicate by touch & glance the world stands motionless on its axis

We talk, it's often our only chance too busy to inhale deeply & take in oxygen we could listen to more Neil Diamond songs, till the feeling ebbs away

Remember when we could sleep all day, being fully occupied doing almost nothing, responsibility is now too much with us, let us try to be, forever in blue jeans

## Never Go To Sleep On An Argument

Things are not as they may first appear, something gets lost in the fog, Feelings are oft misconstrued in the mire, you need to look deeper, by God.

Take time to talk, and listen won't you, let's get it right off our chest, we shall each feel better, if we take some time to digress

we shall agree to leave this fair day, as friends

#### **New Town**

Thank you for moving us to a new town,
Thank you for ripping every shred of originality from our being,
Thank you for introducing us to concrete,
Thank you for the joy of the busy high street

New Town, I have a new home New Town, I have aspirations to own, Somewhere new with green fields to see I have definite thoughts on who I might be.

If I had no soul, then I'd be truly grateful
If I had no opinion, I trust I'd be sane,
If I needed your money, I would kiss your ass,
I would rather sleep rough or camp on the grass.

My school is funded by a lie from the state, The teachers are working to rules that they hate I try to pretend that this is all a game. But my future is traded, like players in a game

#### **Old Friends**

You never make any new old friends, folks that will follow you to the end of your journey, take time to nuture these gifts & don't give up on them

Never waste time on old feuds, you only get one shot focus on the really important things, a smile, a kiss Smell the flowers & the grass, get outdoors more

Keep your anger under control & let your love loose, make your memories inspire you to change for the better Forget the laptop & send me a letter

Sing from the depths of your lungs, shock me remember the very best of times, take time once in a while, to bounce up & down, Call me when you're in my town

#### **Past Times**

hey friend, do you remember when, we pushed the rules too far & got caught out,

we were scared at first, but how we laughed at our leisure, we cocked a snook at those in authority remember, remember

we played, we cried, we giggled, we lived now were too busy to have past thoughts small humans invade our time & lives our earnings focus our weak minds

Gobstoppers & bedwetting, best friends & fretting we lived a life I would never change the modern world is too harsh by chance, we were just mucky faced kids with ripped pants

## **Paupers**

fall, crawl, walk, crawl, die truth, truth, hide, mute, lie, humble, crumble, tumble, pie talk to me, talk to me, I'll tell you why

convention, prevention, retention & die life, life, life & a chalkboard to survive, blue liquid falls on a white tissue, we share a life & I still miss you

bottled water, son or daughter, your contempt is to slaughter us remember, we will leave as paupers and your Prada shoes will be landfill

## **Piers**

Piers Morgan is a supercilious prick, I hope that he dies young, how could he spot any talent, the slack-jawed fawning mong

Piers Morgan is a virgin, his face is a natural curse, if he would take off any of his clothes, I'd rather be prostrate in a hearse.

### Release

I saw my own reflection today, I didn't look like me,
I wanted to be more like you, the man you want me to be,
But then I took stock, and looked to the past
I want these changes to make good & last

Forever & never you'll beg me to stay

If I can't respect your devotion, I cannot remain to play

If I can't love myself, then I must let you be

I sadly release thee & your family tree

Remember that you take all from me, that is good you are my bones, my skin, my blood,
If we can't reach the higher plains of love
I shall wear your memory, like a boxer wears a glove..

### Sanctum

Love, lust & a discounted hotel rate, red diesel in the engine of desire, a hole appeared in your best string vest, an unopened oyster in the breakfast of champions.

Fasten your seatbelt & extinguish all flames, the road ahead is rugged & rocky, take a moment to free your inner adolescent, remember when you were too clever and cocky.

Experience brings with it a story oft told, and wisdom has it's own cross to bear, take me to your inner most sanctum and I will meet you there

#### See Me

Be nice to those less fortunate than you, try hard to forgive those less worthy.

You haven't had to carry the burden of guilt, hardship & shame you have led a life to be envious of the fact you don't realise this, is of no compense to others I cannot help you to be good.

Take some time to smell clean air & find some space, drag yourself off to see the sea here you may find the key to true harmony And you might just be lucky enough to see me

### **Shared Past**

Old friend, old friend, how long since you asked for my welfare, for known friends, for our family glad to hear of your success & your wealth, we will part & remember our shared past

Take heed of our lesson lived, share your wisdom & protect the young, experience is a tool to aide us, but let us not relent on the rule of fun

Our memories will light the dark corners of the present, we will look back on them, with great fondness & regret halcyon thoughts are not always as clear as we think, we musn't undo, that which will always remain undone

#### **Short**

Do you dream about me,
Do you think of me always,
Do you ever wish your life had worked out differently,
Do you ever long for your youth

Are you thankful for what you have, Are you living in tranquility & peace, Are you happy with your current partner, Is the radio playing your kind of song

Is this your super-charged world,
Is this your vision of domestic utopia,
Is this what the school system taught you,
Would you rather stick or twist

Well, I read your prospectus for my life, My friend, I will see you in court In conclusion, taking all things on board I seem to have come up..contentment-short

## **Smack**

I smacked my child tonight, he deliberately hurt his Brother.

Do I feel vindicated or 'right', no I do not.

I'm not a violent man, but I'm trying to do all I can to bring my boys up right, to respect the heart & not sheer might.

The schools that I use, tend not to follow the path I choose

I can't carry the system, but must ensure my own stratagem

# Spag Bol

I loved you & the love died,
I held you & we cried,
we made promises that came to nil,
you made the spag bol & forgot your pill

We made changes & fell out of love, We made sacrifices, far beyond our realm We made plans to do the grown-up thing, I lost the capacity to sing,

Let's stay in bed awhile if we lie in, the reality may stop, in 10 years time, we may look back in angst in 6 months time we will be at 2 seperate bus stops.

# Stephen Patrick Morrissey

A poet laureate for an adolescent generation a spokesman for teenage insecurity, take heed of the genius before you, take time to laugh, stifle the cry

It's been a long journey, but you wear it well, from Friday night to Saturday morning, you're growing old with dignity & bite Like a cool uncle in the latest threads

Ok, you are still as mad as a box of whelks, and talk too much without listening but you are honest, true & real and for that we are eternally grateful.

# Stone Broke & Lonely

Stone broke & lonely, we only have each other For peace & serenity we will view the clear sky, parents long gone, we have our Earth Mother so sad, our bodies too tired to cry, too tired to cry

Stone broke & lonely, the world needs our charity sold our dreams to the man in the black suit the debt collector is calling for his fee, trees so stunted, bear the bitterest fruit

Stone broke & lonely, the world is in need the first world is counting the mouths they must feed the banks are being helped by those who they f\*\*\*ed, we'll see you in hell, if you make the first cut..

## **Talent**

Britain's got talent, but it's not on TV, It exists, although there is no celebrity panel, the virtue, dear heart, lies within you and me, no lies, commercial breaks, pack drill or flannel

Undiscovered, unbroadcastable heroes, surround us 'twenty four seven', take a little time to listen & learn, before the anonymous, depart for Heaven

## The Blue Girl

The mousetrap captures the naive, greedy fool the clock will ensnare the young, lazy youth the internal combustion engine will highlight the inept & unruly the truth will always remain constant.

The Balinese girl will always be blue, she cannot gaze on her reflection she will never know the adoration she receives, but she will never experience rejection

### The Girl With

it all, is standing by the coffee machine, she is straightening her perfect hair the girl with it all is checking her diary & I'm nowhere near it

the girl with it all is fixing her make up,
It was fine just twenty minutes ago,
the girl with it all is tired of being asked out on dates,
the girl with it all wants more

But the girl with it all will grow up before long and her looks may soon fade away she can't rely on a grin & a wink tomorrow will no doubt become today

The girl with it all is pushing a pram, the girl with it all is on welfare the girl with it all just about remembers a previous life of devil may care

## **Today**

Today is the day when I make a change,
Today is the day when I am totally selfless,
Today is the day when I sit down & think,
I think about everyone but myself & the affect they've had upon me.

I look towards the mirror, but that person isn't me
I look at the photographs in my house, but see a stranger,
I look at my veins, but they seem hollow & shallow,
too much technology clouds my senses

I need to escape, find clean air & shadow
I must to the coast in winter, it's quiet & mellow
Domesticity cannot give me the physical high
It's mundane, banal....I long for clear sky

Ok, clear mind, I know the way forward Clear my debts, change my career & talk more, that's talk directly, with words, not electonic means to prevent my life falling apart at the seams

Today is the day, when you may like me
Today is the day when my troubles subside me
Today is the day when I grow confident & brave
Today is the day when my life is saved.

# **Tonight**

Tonight is a good night for poetry, my good friends have deserted me, I am alone in this pitted pasture, it's a good night for poetry,

Tonight is a great night for rhyme, I have seen more than I should, I have been shaken to the very core, it's a popular night for a this crime,

Tonight is a splended night for argument we will never find true meaning, your views are turning hemispheric I will never be truly content

Tonight is the best night to die,
I have all my chattle around me,
I can't take anything with me,
I could leave you with this thought..

# **Travelling Home**

Travelling back home for Christmas, my spirits should be high, now once familiar sights now hurt my eyes and fill my soul with dread

Returning to oft trodden sod, the deep snow covering the Dales, I'm secretly longing for sunnier climbs and all that they entail

My future now lies beyond this path, I still hold those memories close and dear, to return once more to unfrozen lands, as I embrace the latest New Year.

## **Untrue Heart**

A dress of red, with an ochre hue, green eyes, with a touch of dew, faint regret for what might have been, blonde hair, that lingers in the memory, longer than it should have.

A mild greeting, belies the true heart, a gasp, a sigh, a sharp intake of breath, fragrance, that will never be forgotten, feeling that will transcend, even death

# **Wedding Present**

you made a huge mistake before, better luck 2nd time around, even with desperation & persperation your 1st ship ran aground.

this time it will be smoother, lessons have been understood, but deep down inside your core, 'you have never been no good'

did you give all the wedding gifts back, did you pretend that you even wanted them does hell have an interior designer, if it does, his back is covered in phlegm.

# When The Playtime (Recess) Bell Rings

When the playtime bell rings, it's time to cease fun, when the playtime bell rings, it's time to grow up, when the playtime bell rings, it's time to get serious.

When the factory whistle blows it's time to roll sleeves up, when the factory whistle blows, it's time to pay bills when the factory whistle blows, it's time to forego rebellious thought

When the church bells chime, it's time for commitment, when the church bells chime, it's time to make plans when the church bells chime, it's time to make compromise

When the death knoll tolls, it's time for regrets when the death knoll tolls, it's time for rethinking when the death knoll tolls, it's time for peace

# You Hate Me (Road Rage)

I've just left my house & you hate me,
I've just opened the car door & I can feel your hatred,
I've just put my key in the ignition & you are sharpening your tongue
I've just reversed out of my drive & you are making snide remarks

I'm starting my journey & you've already reached your conclusion I'm choosing the music, but for you the fat lady has already sung I'm deciding what temperature is ideal; you need to cool down We are soon to meet, at something as important as a stop sign

You should give way, but you've had a bad day
You might slow down, but you've let your guard down
No compromise in sight, you clench your hand for the fight
You use your headlights as a weapon, a beacon for the contrite

I have mortally offended you, I am but a stranger, Will we joust like the knights of days past?
We both have loving families at home
Should we just agree to try harder, next time.