

Twelve River RIPPLES



Favourite Poem

Jacques Groen gives us a fascinating poem from a compelling poet.
It tells of the struggle in all of us against systems and hypocrisy.

I want

By Jordan Jace

I want to write poems for construction workers and dreamers
For revolutionaries
For deadbeats and those on the low
I never want to ask please fix us all
I want for us to want
to patch every heart
and pave every road
and destroy every system
that has ever left us
broken. I want to sing
like frank ocean, like wonder
like sonder, like mereba, like the sea
I want to recite the line
Took the wretched out the earth
Called it baby fanon,
I want to call someone baby.
I want to stop smoking because I want to live,
I can only love my comrades if I live,
and I want to clean my room,
I want to clean my room every week
and make my bed and put peppermint in my hair
to stop needing my inhalers
and to inhale solidarity, and to eat the rich,
I want to eat the rich, to cancel the rents,
to know my neighbors
and to know my neighbors
are safe. I want to move like water, to move
from unity to struggle to unity,
to have no perfect world we haven't fought for.

Favourite Poem cont.

Frank Ocean / Wonder / Sonder / Mereba are all contemporary musicians / songwriters in American Hip-hop / Rap genres

Frantz Omar Fanon was a French West Indian psychiatrist and political philosopher from the French colony of Martinique. His works have become influential in the fields of post-colonial studies, critical theory and Marxism.

I have only recently met this particular poem, written by someone I had not heard of before. It featured in *Poem-a-Day*. It is not often that I read a poem that I am a little jealous of, a poem I would love to have written myself. This is such a poem and I like it for all the reasons he, Jordan Jace, has set out to write it, with an abundance of joy and optimism.

He said about this poem:

I wanted to write a poem that speaks for itself. In academic spaces, people pay a lot of attention to patterns and hidden meaning, and I found myself really searching for clarity and purpose, and writing this poem was a part of building that for myself. I wanted to write a poem about optimism and fostering a culture of revolution, and this is the result.

https://poets.org/poet/jordan-jace?mc_cid=a907edd725&mc_eid=b6202cf19c

Jacques Groen