

Entre deux guerre

Pris en charge en 1867 par le gouvernement,
À la culture occidentale, intégrée totalement.

Souffrir, souffrir,

De discrimination, de pauvreté
après la Première Guerre mondiale.

Souffrir, souffrir,

de l'indifférence générale.

Cérémonies traditionnelles, interdite.

Documents importants saisis.

De notre culture, de nos familles,
les enfants y sont séparé.

Dans des pensionnats,
ils y sont placé.

Racines amérindiennes, coupé.

Être "bons chrétiens", c'est obligé.

Non, et encore non,
nous allons résister.

Trop, c'est trop,
on doit nous écouter.

Dans nos réserves, nos finances,
nous avons à dire, dans leur gestion.

Organisme national, nous créons.

La ligue des Amérindiens;

Nos droits,

Notre voix,

Notre Place,

Nous aurons!

What if, if only

What if, he had left just a few minutes later?

If only the tires had been leaking.

What if, he had gone slower?

If only the truck had started braking.

What if, there were no cracks on the road?

If only he had seen the rock in his path.

What if, the driver had paid more attention?

If only he had paused and checked both directions.

What if, the truck hadn't hit him so hard?

If only, oh if only he had worn his helmet.

The doctor said that only half an inch...
Only half an inch, and you'd still be here.
What if, if only.

Thoughts

Shot down. Like a bird in the sky.
Smacked down. Like a worthless fly.
My happiness that seemed so rare,
so often dissolved, leaving me bare.
Why can they not understand me?
Have I done something unspeakable?
Something so very wrong?
Why do they act so cold and mean?
Have I said something unforgivable?
I just wanted to belong.
Trying not to cry, like a stupid child.
Trying not to run and hide, like an animal in the wild.
My blood is not respected.
My feelings are not considered.
Is it because I look so strong,
that they believed their words
would do no wrong?
But they do hurt. The words, I mean.
Like daggers in my heart they are.
Like ringing in my ears they burn.
My eyes can't hold back the tears.
Because I know who and what I am:
None of their concern.