This zine is created by FFF members and those directly affected by the US immigration system.
Breathe in the fresh air,
Put your mind at ease.
Let down your hair,
Let it flow in the breeze.

Let your eyes wander
To all the beauty to be seen.
If those toxic thoughts you still do ponder,
Then let out a scream.

Scream until the pain is gone,
Until you no longer feel afraid.
Open your eyes to a new dawn,
Let the darkness fade.

No longer compare yourself
Or your flaws to others' perfections.
Take the negativity off the shelf.
Focus on your direction.

Pick the sadness up off the floor,
Sweep it into the wind.
Close the door on self-hatred.
Never let it back in.

For the lies it would often tell you,
You will no longer agree.
Happiness and love are what you should hold onto.
They are whom you should give the key.

Pay no attention to the toxic thoughts,
Listen to those who adore everything you are.
Overthinking was what you once were taught,
But now those thoughts you put in a jar.

Focus on your goals,
Never lose your fight.
It's time to open new scrolls.
Everything will be all right.
The Immigrant’s Plight
- Gerard Matthews

When the times get tough and you can’t make a living
When your survival depends on you earning a shilling
You must board the plane and rise up above
And regrettfully depart from the land that you love
For the sake of that shilling you travel the earth
Knowing you might not return to the land of your birth
Anxious elated and excited you touch down in New York

Very soon you find out that its nothing like Dundalk
In the struggle to adapt to your new beginning in life
You quickly learn to deal with all the trouble and strife

The days add to weeks then months into years
Then you suddenly realize that you’ve conquered your fears
In the land of the free with so much to explore and take in
Its impossible to avoid the dangers and the perils of the drinking

Because of some mistakes made you have paid a steep price
Then the Government decides that you must make payment for them twice
They lock you up in detention then say to hell with your rights
And you have to prepare mentally and make fists for the fights

To achieve their goal before the Judge
They lied through their teeth
With no concerns for your health or if you ended up in the street
But the agents of tyranny forgets that justice can arrive in the night

And discretions against God’s children will result in the terrible plight
Of condemnation, suffering and disaster in the dungeons of despair
And life everlasting full of wickedness and a soul way beyond repair
When you choose to walk this path regrettfully there is no prevention

Because as everybody knows out of hell there is no redemption
You people who legislate and govern in this land the home of the brave
Would do well to remember God’s law if your soul you want to save
Always welcome quench the thirst and serve food to the stranger

Follow this righteous path and you will never be faced with danger
Up to heaven you will rise on the last day where you will spend your eternal life
In the wonderful company of myself and my always charming wife

Support our work: bit.ly/DONATEFFF
This man you see
He was not a refugee
But just a man

Who loved to laugh
And walk with his class
By the sea

He liked America
But he was forced to flee
He could be you
He could be me
But it was my father

And there was nothing I could do
But I tried
He was not a refugee
But just an amazing guy

He was not a refugee
But that’s what the system
Wanted everyone to believe

He had a family
Who loved and cared
Now it’s hard to bare

The fact that he’s not here but we’re still strong since
Even though he’s not here he’s here
And we want the world to be aware

Japanese American Survivors of US Internment Camps of the 1940s on the
Day of Remembrance march in Manhattan on February 19, 2020. Fred
Korematsu was 23 yo in 1942, when he was ordered to report to a Japanese
Internment Camp. He refused to go.

He was arrested and convicted of defying a government order. He appealed
to the Supreme Court and lost. They said his incarceration was justified
due to military necessity. In 1983 legal historians found documents that
intelligence agencies hid from the Supreme Court in 1944. The documents
consistently showed that Japanese Americans had committed no acts of
treason to justify mass incarceration. Mr. Korematsu’s conviction was
overturned, winning a significant civil rights victory!
Thank you for reading our Freedom Zine! Every piece that you saw in this Zine was created and contributed by our members and those who are directly affected by the US immigration system.

If you would like to have your work added to our next Zine, please send your submissions to Families for Freedom for consideration. Our address is on the front cover of this Zine. Showcase your art and creativity! Tell us what freedom means to you through poetry or drawing. Show what it is like to be affected by the US immigration system and what your journey through the system has been like, whether you have a case or are a loved one of someone with a case.

We look forward to receiving your work! Be sure to check out the next issue of our Freedom Zine.

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